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APRIL 1985 VOL. 7 NO. 4
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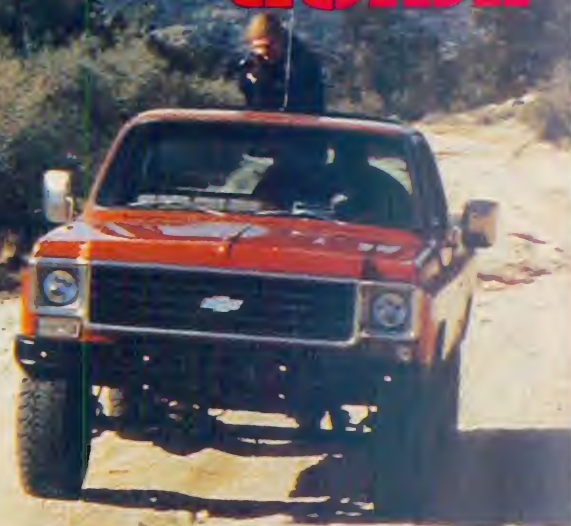
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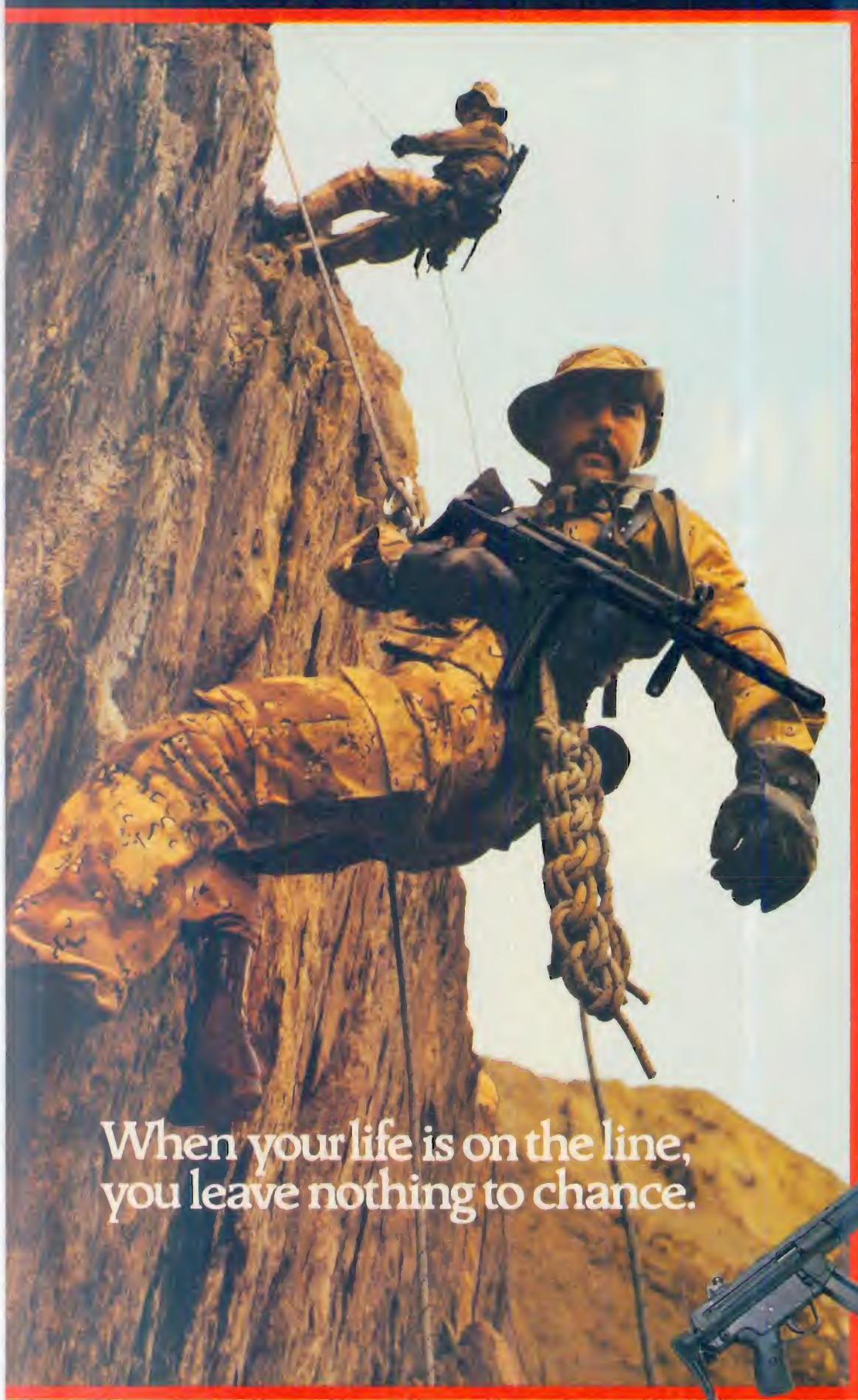
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See Pages 53-55 for Contest Details



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COVER:

The Honda TRX-mounted survivalist escapes the marauders in the pickup. See Page 28. The inset shows the stainless Coonan .357. See Page 44. (Photos by Dave Epperson)



Page 28



Page 44

- 5 Mail Call**
Reader's gripes, groans, and good vibrations.
- 6 To The Point**
Attitude, personal computers, and the live larder.
- 8 Survival Line**
Voices from around this survivalist community.
- 10 Book Reviews**
Kerosene heat, goats, and a nutrition lesson.
- 12 Unrest In Asia**
A seldom-mentioned war may become nuclear.
- 16 Star & Blade**
A winner shows his knifemaking craftsmanship.
- 18 Survival Self-Test**
How well do you read animal sign? Take the exam.

- 20 Murder**
Emotional disturbance is common among killers.
- 24 Letter Openers**
Concealable, they don't trigger metal detectors.
- 28 Assault Systems TRX**
This vehicle can double as a ranch hand.
- 32 Rats**
Control of the total population is required.
- 36 Tae Kwon Do Tapes**
Exercises, basic techniques, and self-defense moves.
- 38 Kolaps-A-Tank**
Five sizes for storing and transporting water.
- 42 Thin Film Module**
Technology for more energy from the sun.
- 44 Coonan .357**
Lean, spare, beautiful, and deadly accurate.
- 48 Asian Martial Arts**
There's no one-size-fits-all fighting style.
- 52 Shotgun Adapters**
Shoot .38 Special, .357 or .45 ACP in your shotgun.

- 53 Blockbuster Bonanza**
Valuable prizes worth thousands are waiting for ASG readers.
- 56 Wilderness Emergencies**
What to do when facing an accident in a remote area.
- 58 Haywire Klamper**
On a tool value scale, this one rates as a 10.
- 60 Spark-Lite**
It doesn't fail, on successive tries, to kindle a fire.
- 62 Survival Stuff**
Articles of interest to the self-reliant.
- 70 Survival On a Budget**
Getting the right gear on the minimal amount of money.
- 76 Advertisers Index**
Where to look for the equipment you want.

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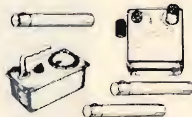
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12 Pouches (2@) \$ 16.80 + 3.50 S&H

36 Pouches (6@) \$ 42.00 + 5.25 S&H

72 Pouches (12@) 1 72.00 + 10.50 S&H

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10 Packs \$ 5.50 ppd.

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Chocolate Nut Brownies: Nothing more needs to be said. I think these are a super treat. #R101

10 Packs \$ 6.50 ppd.

20 Packs \$11⁵⁰ ppd. 100 Packs \$52⁰⁰ ppd.

MRE Cakes: Very moist and tasty. Chocolate Nut, Pineapple Nut and Orange Nut. Offered in evenly mixed assortments. #R102

6 Cakes \$ 8.00 ppd.

12 Cakes \$15⁰⁰ ppd. 36 Cakes \$36⁰⁰ ppd.

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18-Gallon Barrel \$ 17.50 + 4.50 S&H

5 Barrels \$ 96.00 ppd. 48 states

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MAIL CALL

Skinning

I find the article by Bill London, "Skin It, Tan It, Wear It!" (November, 1984) almost funny, some of it. I would refer Mr. London and anyone who contemplates such tasks to the following: *The Complete Book of Outdoor Lore*, by Clyde Ormond; *Wildwood Wisdom*, by Ellsworth Jaeger; *The Best of Woodsmoke*, by Richard Jameson; and *Crafts of the North American Indians*, by Richard Schneider. And for gathering and processing of sinew, *The Mother Earth News*, No. 84 (May/June, 1984). Having spent several years in Alaska, I would like to take exception to London's statement that fur garments are worn with the hair side next to the body. This seems logical, but I personally have never encountered an animal whose hair grew between its skin and body!

H.C. Stout
Bluffton, Indiana

It is difficult to respond to your criticisms because they are so vague (and unjustified), but specifically regarding your assumption that it's "logical" to wear fur garments hair side out—you are wrong. Both for comfort and for insulative value, it is best to wear the fur toward the body. The fur traps and holds heat better that way. It is interesting that you brought up your Alaska experience, since the native Alaskan population traditionally wore their garments fur inward. Now, admittedly, people wear fur coats fur outward, but that's for decorative value only. I was writing an article about practicality and survival, not modern definition of style. Thanks for your list of reference texts on woodslife. There are undoubtedly as many ways to tan hides and make leather clothing as there are ways to skin a cat. I wrote about survival methods (labor-intensive) that work—and I stand by all that I wrote.

Bill London
Moscow, Idaho

There Are More

I work for an internationally distributed magazine, but not a survivalist publication. I was interested to see your Statement of Ownership listed on Page 75 of the January issue. By law, we too are obligated to publish such a statement annually, and I am quite familiar with its contents. My hat is off, and my hand out to those 69,770 or so fellow survivalists out there who continue to support this informative, handsome-looking magazine month after month with a subscription or a purchase at the store. There are undoubtedly many more self-professed "survivalists" out there, but these 69,770 survivalists know real quality when they see/read it. Here's to your continued success—because

through our support and your success we will continue to succeed—and survive.

Name Withheld by Request
Royal Oak, Michigan

A sound guesstimate is that in addition to our 69,770 survivalists out there, some 750,000 people in the U.S. term themselves likewise. We'd really like to reach them, too.

Knowledge Life

I am a former U.S. Coastguardsman, Civil Air Patrol Cadet, long time woodsman/hunter, and a compulsive reader. In 1966, I was part of an unsuccessful attempt to rescue survivors of a plane crash in the Ozark Mountains. All passengers starved to death that summer amid teeming wildlife and abundant edible plantlife. Profoundly disturbed by their lack of skills, I became a practicing survivalist. I am more than pleased with your magazine, which I read religiously. Please keep up the good work, because the information you are making available will save lives. Knowledge is life. Ignorance is death.

Timothy Willis
Palo Alto, California

Survivors have the knowledge to live. And, yes, the ignorant die. It is ever thus, Tim. Thank you for your worthwhile observations.

Directory

Regarding the suggestion by Dave Daggett in the December 1984 issue that a survival directory be established in your magazine, I for one am in favor. A directory would be advantageous to those who no longer see eye to eye with their old friends and need those of their own kind for information, support and fellowship. ASG is an excellent and informative magazine. Keep up the good work!

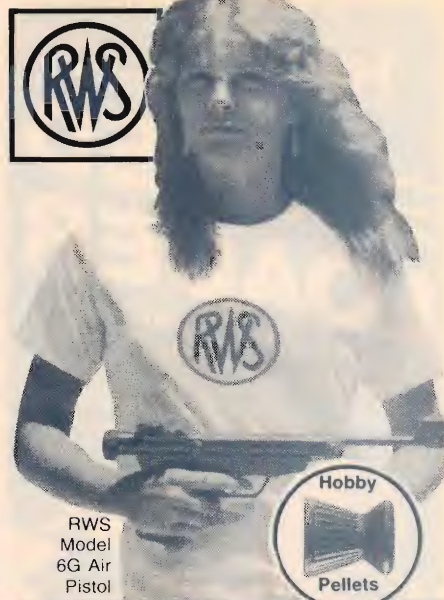
Sandra J. Brooks
St. Paul, Minnesota

We're looking for all the feedback we can get on this one, Sandra—and help, too. We're willing to create any kind of directory that will prove effective for making contact, survivalist to survivalist. Any advice from readers in regard to how we can conduct our directory service, yet keep survivalists' names and addresses confidential, will be sincerely appreciated by the ASG staff. It seems best to get it right the first time.

Has Knowledge, Will Share

I have been an avid reader of *American Survival Guide* for the past year, and

(Continued on page 76)



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- RUGER .38, .357, .44 Mag.,
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TO THE POINT

Chip's attitude, thoughts on personal computers, and our live larder stock . . .

IT BRINGS TEARS to my eyes to write this. As you know, monthly magazines have a long lead-time. Today, for me, months before you read this, is the day after Christmas, 1984. Today is the day that my friend, Chip, will undergo surgery in the hope of arresting the disease *myasthenia gravis*, a disease that debilitates the muscles, a disease that cannot be cured or halted, but only slowed to remission.

Chip is built like a fire plug, short and pug-ugly, and he is a Tae Kwon Do competitor, and martial arts instructor. Myasthenia gravis has rendered his once strong grip of a handshake to the consistency of a used paper towel. In the weeks before today's surgery, Chip was forced by his increasing weakness to use a cane. Chip hates being weak.

I've already said Chip is a fighter. He acknowledged being immensely afraid of the surgeon's knife and whatever may lie beyond. Nonetheless, Chip always, in these pre-operation days, had a smile, a joke, or a yarn-telling about some competition event or boyhood brawl.

Chip told me he fully intends to overcome the operation and beat the disease—"give it a reverse kick to the groin," as he put it. I had to laugh—and weep at the same time.

Chip fears the surgery, yet has the courage to undertake this course as advised by his doctors—to tough it out. He fears the unknown, yet faces it square-on. Chip, to me, epitomizes an attitude—survival.

Home Computers—Survivalists who received microcomputers as Christmas gifts will find they're good for more than keeping the checkbook balanced. So far, with mine, I've run up some .308 ballistics tables on a data base, and the computer has calculated which are the most effective loads in a .308 caliber to do specific jobs.

I have yet to acquire a modem, but intend to do so in order to make contact with other computer-equipped survivalists, and to check out various survivalist bulletin boards.

And, too, there are some "wargames" available for personal computers that can test and train logical thought processes. Thinking logically is a survival technique that's difficult to acquire. My little computer and I are working on it. I will be able to use my acquired logic when computers perhaps no longer function. These brain games are fun, yes, and they'll prove of value when the time comes.

I'm old enough to have started my

journalistic career writing on a Remington manual with glass sides (the typewriter was 28 years older than I am—and that was long ago). I graduated to electric typewriters in years past, and now do my duty on an IBM Correcting Selectric II, a fine—though obsolete—machine. It has no memory, and it requires carriage returns. One cannot edit this and that, or move paragraphs around at will, as with the word-processing functions of a computer.

Probably the best thing about home computers—together with copying machines—is that there never again can be governmental control of the flow of information. No matter what happens in terms of economic crises, or collapse of government, or invasion by a foreign power, some people somewhere will communicate with others elsewhere, using skills acquired at the home computer keyboard.

There are many people who continue to fear computers. As Mr. Spock would say, "Illogical!" The computer is, and will continue to become, a tool ever more necessary for survival.

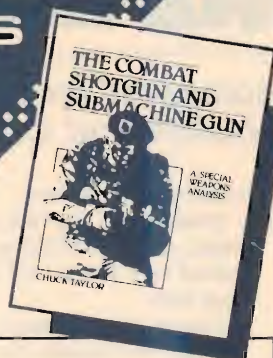
If you do not have a personal computer in your home now, I advise you to bite the bullet and purchase one as soon as possible. Then learn to use it for your own survival.

Cycles—The abundance of wild creatures for food is cyclic in nature. At our place in California's desert/mountain area, my wife, Sally, and I have observed over the past year that the number of jackrabbits has declined considerably. This perhaps is the result of a protracted dry spell. There were no flowers blooming last spring. There hasn't been much rainfall in two years, but now rainfall seems to be coming back to normal. We're intending to conduct a census through the spring to determine whether the rainfall has influenced a jackrabbit comeback.

The number of other critters, over the past year, has likewise declined, but some animal populations have increased: Southern Pacific rattlesnakes down, scrub jays down, mourning doves up, crows up, coyotes down, whiptail lizards down, as seen and nose-counted while hiking. The reverse seems true in a wet year.

This is patently unscientific, sure, but we think that gauging what kind of weather one year may result in presence or absence of food animals the next could be of importance to us in the future. At least we know currently what our desert/mountain live larder has in stock, should we have need.—Dave Epperson

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THE COMBAT SHOTGUN AND SUBMACHINE GUN

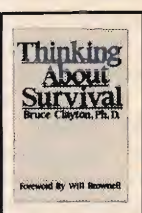
A Special Weapons Analysis

by Chuck Taylor

From one of America's most sought-after shooting instructors comes an in-depth analysis of two controversial small arms: the combat shotgun and submachine gun. In photo essay form, Chuck Taylor—author of *The Fighting Rifle* and *The Complete Book of Combat Handgunning*, and cofounder and former editor of *SWAT* magazine—examines these two commonly misunderstood and misemployed weapons. For both the beginner and expert, a comprehensive education in weapon effectiveness is provided. Step-by-step, 385 photos detail field-testing of both arms, basic and advanced training drills, tactical rules for different situations and gun accessories and modifications. Taylor also covers techniques for weapon effectiveness such as loading procedures, carrying and fighting positions, pivots and turns, and malfunction clearance drills. 8½ x 11, softcover, 385 photos, 176 pp. **\$14.95**

THE AR-7 EXOTIC WEAPONS SYSTEM

A comprehensive home workshop guide for the gun buff and hobbyist machinist. Over fifty working machinist's drawings, photos and full-scale templates show exactly how to convert the AR-7 .22 survival rifle into a full-auto silenced machine pistol or machine gun. Step-by-step instructions detail how to modify the weapon's original receiver, fabricate new gear and safety, as well as make a simple, efficient silencer group assembly. For historical and reference purposes only. 9 x 12, softcover, illus., 72 pp. **\$12.00**



THINKING ABOUT SURVIVAL

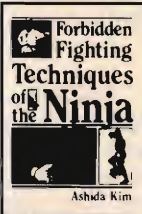
by Bruce Clayton, Ph.D.
Some of survivalism's most cherished beliefs are challenged here by well-known survivalist author Bruce Clayton. Retreat defense, camouflage, terminal ballistics, EMP effects of a nuclear weapon, history and evolution of the survivalist movement, and firearms selection and training are just some of the topics. 5½ x 8½, softcover, illus., 144 pp. **\$10.00**

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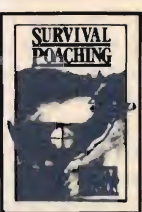
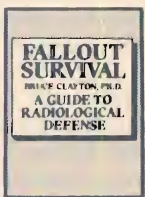
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laws, foresters, Hoboken and CD...*

THE COLT .45 semi-automatic pistol, standard issue sidearm of the U.S. armed forces since 1911, is being replaced by a new 9mm handgun from Beretta, the Italian arms manufacturer. The Army, designated purchaser of the pistols, has announced the intention to award Beretta a 5-year, \$50 million contract for 315,930 Model 92SBF pistols, more than 200,000 of which are to be produced by Beretta, U.S.A., Corporation, at its plant in Accokeek, Maryland. The 92SBF is chambered for the 9mm Parabellum (Luger) cartridge, features a 15-round staggered magazine with expanded floor-plate for firing stability, corrosion-resistant finish, and plastic combat grips, according to Jeff Reh, Beretta contracts administrator.

Cover Your Computers—The Federal Emergency Management Administration, FEMA has released documents which outline a FEMA-devised plan for use during a declared national emergency. The documents, obtained under a Freedom of Information Act request, outline expanded powers of the government in case of national emergency. Among these powers is the ability of the military to take over the entire computer industry of the U.S.A. The plan is written broadly enough that it would also allow the government to seize privately owned personal computers. Also included is the establishment of an Office of Censorship which would oversee all types of international telecommunications.

Critics say the term "national emergency" is so general that the plan could be used in almost any circumstances.

According to a congressional study entitled *A Brief History of Emergency Powers In the United States*, there are at least 470 emergency powers statutes in the laws of the U.S. In the words of the study these statutes if used, "would confer enough authority to rule the country without reference to any normal Constitutional processes."

Laws and Guns—Missouri lawmakers have been busy. A recently passed law makes it a felony to teach firearms or explosives handling for use in "civil disobedience."

The law was prompted by the concern over violent incidents that have occurred recently in both Missouri and Arkansas. These incidents have involved self-proclaimed survivalists in shootouts with law enforcement officials. Responsible survivalists have decried both the laws and the actions of the so-called "survivalists"

which prompted them.

Missouri has also restricted local governments from establishing their own gun control laws unless they are in accord with state laws.

Vernon Hills, Illinois, will soon decide whether to emulate the town of Morton Grove, in prohibiting the sale or possession of handguns.

Off The Path—Survivalists who seek out national parks or other out-of-the-way locations to practice their survival skills have a new worry. According to federal officials, all of the 141 U.S. national forests have reported incidents related to the illegal cultivation of marijuana. Vietnam-style booby traps and armed marijuana growers are becoming commonplace in the national forests.

Growing numbers of incidents involving campers and hikers stumbling upon hidden marijuana fields have been reported. In some cases the hikers have been shot dead by the growers.

Survival Economy—For those survivalists who see economic collapse as a growing danger to the U.S., here is something to think about.

During 1984, 78 banks failed and were forced to shut down by the federal government. That number of bank failures was the most in any year since the Depression. The chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation predicted that 1985 could see an even larger number of closings.

Not In Hoboken—The anti-nuclear movement scored a "success" recently, when the Hoboken, N.J., City Council voted to declare the city and surrounding area a nuclear free zone. The effect of the vote will be the banning of *all* nuclear research activity, peaceful as well as military within the city's environs. The bill also seeks to enforce a ban on the city from doing *any* business with firms which are at all involved with the nuclear industry.

Such bans are no longer isolated incidents in the U.S. Hoboken's approval of the plan brings to 62 the number of such bans countrywide.

Civil Defense Demise?—Reports are surfacing that indicate the probable termination of the United States Civil Defense program. Indications are that the already minimal expenditures for civil defense will be completely ended as part of the budget reductions proposed by the White House. ●



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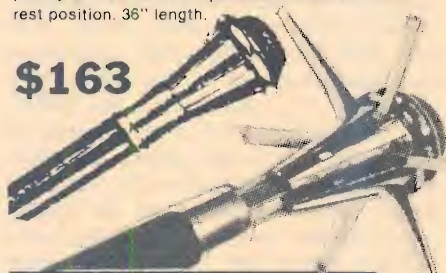
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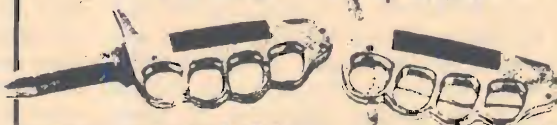
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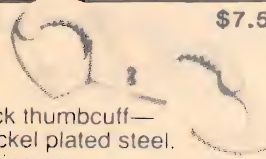
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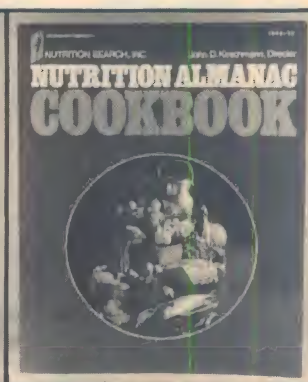
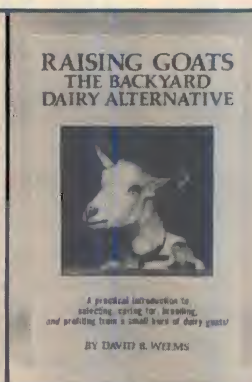
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BOOK REVIEWS



Kerosene Heaters, by Dan Ramsey; TAB Books Inc., Dept. ASG, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214; 209 pages, \$9.95.

This volume could be subtitled "All You Ever Wanted to Know About Kerosene Heaters and More." It is an extremely thorough guide to heater ownership, from proper selection and operating procedures to the principles of home heating and insulation. The dominant theme, however, is safety, which is addressed throughout the book and as the topic of Chapter 6. The operator of a kerosene heater is warned that even though improved techniques and stringent Japanese safety standards have helped to improve the poor reputation of these heaters, it is still up the owner to protect himself from a number of dangers. Asphyxiation is one of them, a deadly companion to oxygen consumption in an unventilated room. This volume also contains formulas for computing the cost of your heating, directions for choosing a used heater, complete diagrams of various models and a glossary of terms. All in all, the book makes informative reading for the self-reliant who want to warm their shelter without electricity.

Raising Goats: The Backyard Dairy Alternative, by David B. Weems; Tab Books, Inc., Dept. ASG, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214; 204 pages, paperback; \$12.95.

This is the finest sort of how-to book. Goats have been with man since before recorded history. They should be with him in whatever future is in store. Goats produce milk and cheese of high nutritive value, and meat. They are hardy and can exist on natural vegetation in harsh climates. Weems' book details which breed of goat to select for specific locales and demands, and how to choose healthy animals. A chapter is devoted to housing for goats, milking stands, sheds and buildings for hay storage. Another entire chapter is given to fencing, both to keep goats at home, and to prevent the curious

animals from eating trees and shrubs. Feed, nutrition and hygiene, important considerations in the health of the animals, are detailed. Medical treatment and breeding, and preparation of meat and how to handle milk and milk products end the book. This book is a starter for beginners, and a text for folk who already own goats. It's a text for the survivalist's library—the survivalist who may wish to have a goat or two in his future.

Nutrition Almanac Cookbook, Nutrition Search, Inc., John D. Kirschmann, Director, with Lavin J. Dunne; McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1983; \$8.95.

This cookbook appears to be carefully researched to provide the best nutrition possible in a daily diet. The menus are regular fare, mixed with some pleasant-looking variations, and use some low-calorie shortcuts without sacrificing much heartiness. The main emphasis of this volume is on balanced intake of Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA). The new twist here is that these allowances have been computed by, you guessed it, a computer. As a side issue is the eternal diet—it is claimed that if one figures out the proper number of calories combined with meeting nutritional needs, that one's weight will eventually dip to the desired level. (Alcohol as an RDA is not mentioned.) Charts are included for these calculations. The author also recommends that daily multi-vitamin and mineral supplements be taken with meals. Although these menus would be good for almost anyone's health, they seem complex for survival conditions because of their goodly sampling of fresh vegetables and heavy reliance on a variety of spices that will probably not be available in your post-catastrophic cupboards. Nevertheless, for now, this book might be one way to acquaint yourself with what a perfectly-balanced diet looks like, despite possible difficulty attaining it. ●



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The Seldom Mentioned War:

UNREST IN THE SOUTHERN LAND

The border clash between Vietnam and the People's Republic of China could lead to nuclear war . . .

By Robert C. Smith



Buried on the back pages of newspapers, almost unheard on radio news and seldom, if ever mentioned on TV news, are a series of events which could have the greatest political and military significance in all the history of the world, events that could very well trigger the next World War. What is being discussed is the current series of border skirmishes between the People's Republic of China and Vietnam.

The origins of the problem can be traced back into the far past, when the Chinese began to expand southward into the Red River Delta, establishing Chinese settlements and villages, and displacing the local Vietnamese. As the dynamic Chinese expanded and their presence in the region grew, the area became a full-fledged Chinese province. This political control lasted—allowing for some interruptions during rebellions and Chinese mutinies—until the 15th Century. In effect, substantiation for the Chinese claim of historic control over this area is of far greater

legality than any Vietnamese claims to the contrary, especially because the Vietnamese hadn't progressed beyond the tribal level of government until the Chinese arrived and incorporated Vietnam into the Empire.

During the 15th Century, the Vietnamese Le Family managed to expel the Imperial governors, then turned on the Vietnamese tribes, subdued them, and proceeded to establish their own, thoroughly Sinoized Empire. The Le Family Dynasty managed to exert a tenuous hold on almost all of Vietnam until it was finally crushed by French colonizers in the late part of the 19th Century. Not surprisingly, after the many years of rule by outside powers, the typical Vietnamese-stock peasant developed a virulent case of xenophobia, usually most intense toward the ethnic Chinese, which is made all the worse because the Chinese tended to work harder and longer, and consequently to acquire greater wealth, than their Vietnamese counterparts.

French Bungling—A series of minor rebellions against the French followed, most of which were suppressed by the bungling French after campaigns of extreme duration. The last true rebellion hadn't been shut down when the Japanese demanded—and got—occupation rights in Indochina from a weak French government, following the French collapse in 1940. After World War II, negotiations to settle the matter of Indochina foundered on the rock of Gallic intransigence, an action that almost guaranteed yet another rebellion and a major colonial war. When the war broke out, the Vietnamese swallowed their pride and negotiated with the newly-born People's Republic of China (PRC). The agreement resulted in the Vietminh being given food, military supplies, military advisors, and—most importantly of all—sanctuary rights in the southern part of the PRC.

It appeared for the moment that the Vietnamese would be able to submerge their traditional hatreds and accept aid for

the duration of their struggle with the French. Because they lacked the military competence—and political will—to hold their outpost of empire, the French quickly managed to kill off the best elements of their army, destroy the native Vietnamese government, eliminate a previously functioning economy, and partition the country into two mutually antagonistic halves. The crowning achievement of French colonial policy was to set matters up so that confrontation between the two “nations” was unavoidable.

Without going too deeply into the Vietnam War, it can be said that PRC policy continued to be giving all aid short of an actual declaration of war to the Vietnamese. It appeared that the two nations had managed to destroy their historical hatreds and work together in the face of their commonly perceived enemy—us!

Policy—Mere appearances, though, aren't an accurate guide for the formation or interpretation of national policy. It soon became apparent that the two nations had opted for two different types of communism. The Chinese version has proven itself able to evolve into a pragmatic, flexible doctrine, capable of adjusting its political tenets to meet the real-world situation. The Vietnamese had chosen the fossilized Moscow version of Stalinism, and locked themselves into a mold as tight and constricting as has ever been developed.

Discrimination against the ethnic Chinese population in Vietnam always existed, but under Hanoi's leadership—possibly at the prompting of the Soviets—the persecution increased in severity as many of the traditional slights and restrictions become codified as law. The xenophobic programs reached their climax when the Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City under the occupation force's designation) People's Committee allegedly decided, with commendable independence, to expropriate all ethnic Chinese-owned businesses, and put such pressure on these unfortunate people that they would be forced to leave the country.

The PRC acted to defuse the situation by sending unarmed merchant ships to Vietnam to evacuate the ethnic Chinese. The action was met with grossly hostile refusals by the Vietnamese, the mobilization of armed border detachments, and an immediate campaign of harassment of the refugees as they made their way by foot overland to China.

Mobilization—After seeing that these actions hadn't made all that much of an impression on the PRC's Government, the Vietnamese began activation of their army, third largest in the entire Communist world. By August 1978, when the mobilization could no longer be concealed, various Vietnamese propaganda organs an-

nounced the formation of a “National Task Force” with some 5 million men either under arms or undergoing military training or refresher training. The reason for the mobilization became obvious when, on August 25, the Vietnamese deliberately provoked a major armed clash along the Sino-Vietnamese border. The overall situation, already quite serious, deteriorated as more Vietnamese military units were deployed along the Vietnamese border, and deliberately inspired numerous incidents of atrocities against the fleeing Chinese.

On November 3, 1978, the USSR and the Vietnamese signed a 25-year Friendship Treaty. The public document consisted of the usual Soviet clichés and catchphrases, and appeared not to be an open threat of aggression against the PRC. Immediately after the public document was announced, however, a series of rumors began to circulate about secret agreements and treaties directed specifically against China, and in exchange, the USSR would guarantee Vietnam's borders against China. The truth of these stories couldn't be determined at the time. However, one rumor, that the USSR demanded and received exclusive base rights in Vietnam has been supported by the Soviet presence in the area, especially in the former American base at Cam Ranh Bay, where the local Vietnamese have been rounded up and relocated outside the base perimeter, and substantial numbers of Soviet troops based in the area to insure security.

Just about a month later, the Vietnamese divisions were unleashed against the pro-Chinese government in Kampuchea in a deliberate effort to remove Chinese influence in Southeast Asia. The campaign was essentially over in the Vietnamese mind when a pro-Vietnamese quisling government was installed on the point of Vietnamese bayonets in Phnom Penh on January 7, 1979.

The Chinese government responded to the combination of border incidents, atrocities against ethnic Chinese, and the invasion of Kampuchea by increasing the number of border guards along the Sino-Vietnamese border. The Vietnamese weren't deterred, and instead increased their anti-Chinese activities to the point where the PRC government had to react.

On February 17, 1979, about 175,000 PRC troops, supported by artillery, about 275 tanks, and about 700 aircraft were at the ready. The PRC government publicly announced that the campaign would be limited to punishment of the Vietnamese for their border incursions, and that all Chinese troops would be withdrawn as soon as their operations were completed. This announcement was obviously for the benefit of the Soviets, in order to deter them from any action against China.

It appears that the Chinese were as good

as their word. Objectives of operation were limited to extensive demolitions of housing, government buildings, factories, power plants, the transportation network, and crops. The operations were carried out without significant opposition, and the Chinese successfully conducted their withdrawal as soon as the campaign was completed.

A secondary objective—taking pressure off the pro-Chinese government of Kampuchea—wasn't carried out with equal success. It is probable that the Chinese attacked with the aim of reducing Vietnamese military pressure on their allies by forcing the withdrawal of some Vietnamese troops from that area and slowing down or perhaps cancelling some of the ongoing Vietnamese operations. The Vietnamese had sufficient troops—militia and regular army—available that this didn't have to occur.

Advantage—The Vietnamese also enjoyed the advantage of operating in rough, heavily forested terrain, which helped them to conduct their own retrograde movements successfully, even when under heavy Chinese pressure, and sometimes being able to launch counterattacks against the Chinese. It is reliably reported that the Vietnamese used chemical warfare agents—almost certainly tear gas—against the Chinese during this stage of the operations. It is also likely that the Vietnamese used more toxic agents, possibly including “Yellow Rain” against the Chinese as well, although evidence of this is very hazy at present. About 80,000 Vietnamese troops were employed in these operations.

It should be mentioned that the presence of these troops did not seriously hamper PRC operations, and that Chinese troops withdrew voluntarily, in good order, and not in a panic as some sources have claimed.

Because the PRC did not reinforce its troop strength in Vietnam, and did keep its word and withdraw, the Soviets were powerless to find a legitimate excuse to intervene in the dispute, especially when their ally was so clearly in the wrong. This was in apparent violation of the public clauses of the Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Treaty.

The Effect—While the Vietnamese publicly shrugged off the Chinese operation as a mere nuisance, the facts of the matter are probably considerably different. Because the Chinese were on the ground, and working under no domestic pressure to withdraw, their operations were far more effective than the American bombing of North Vietnam had been in paralyzing the entire area. In effect, the attack reduced the region to a howling wilderness. Almost as soon as they realized just how successful the Chinese had been, the Vietnamese intensified their atrocity ▶

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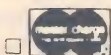
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UNREST IN THE SOUTHERN LAND

campaign against the ethnic Chinese. Within days, people were being rounded up at gunpoint, robbed of their belongings, and force-marched north to the border. At least a half-million people were moved in this first wave of terror. Fewer than half survived.

Tensions started to ease somewhat as time passed, but persecution of the Chinese minority in Vietnam continued, although with less public exposure. The PRC began to send aid to Khmer rebels operating out of Thailand against the Vietnamese occupation forces, but was careful to disguise the source of the weaponry. Pressure on the Vietnamese continued, with the result that there were several cabinet shuffles, and a drop in the Vietnamese economy to its lowest point in many years.

Lesson—The Vietnamese still hadn't learned their lesson. In May, 1982, Vietnamese raiders crossed the Sino-Vietnamese border on several occasions. As many as 150 of these men were reported killed in action by the Beijing government. As quickly as they began, however, the Vietnamese operations stopped. This was probably the result of Soviet pressure, because the Brezhnev government was trying to arrange some sort of Sino-Soviet rapprochement at the time.

By early 1984, the Vietnamese position was substantially worse than it had been for a number of years. Runaway inflation, coupled with the economic burden of supporting one of the world's largest armies, virtually destroyed the value of the Vietnamese currency—it was so bad that the Vietnamese Government was sending laborers to the USSR and other Warsaw Pact countries to pay off their debt. Not even the infusion of Soviet capital, anywhere from \$3 million to \$5 million per day, could counter the basic inconsistencies of the Communist garrison economy. Taking a leaf from Hitler's book, the Vietnamese began to blame publically all their troubles on the Chinese.

Border incidents became common again, with some of them probably involving forces of around a battalion on each side. Several artillery duels have been fought, but with inconsistent results. However, rumors that another punitive expedition is planned by the Chinese are current and becoming more common.

There are reports that the PRC is reinforcing border guard units along its southern border, but such moves could also be aimed at blocking a Vietnamese attack as easily as at supporting a Chinese attack on Vietnam. In the same way, increased alert among PRC units deployed along the border can be attributed to concern about Vietnamese actions.

Increased levels of NBC warfare training have been reported to be under way in the PRC, something that could well be the result of worries that the Vietnamese

wouldn't hesitate to engage in massive use of their Soviet-supplied chemical warfare stocks. A contrary argument could be made that the PRC has increased its level of NBC training to meet the possibility of a Soviet attack. After all, the Soviet forces deployed along the PRC border are the most powerful of all Soviet forces anywhere.

Most interesting of all is the fact that the PRC Armed Forces are undergoing a complete and thorough overhaul. Military professionalism is being encouraged for the first time since China was taken by Mao. This recognizes the fact that merely being a good comrade doesn't necessarily mean that the man is a good officer as well. Ranks, rank distinctions, and service-specific uniforms are being introduced in the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and considerable attention is being given to

***'Increased levels of NBC
warfare training are
reported to be under way
in the PRC . . .'***

making the chain of command more efficient and more apolitical. All of the measures mean that the PRC intends to create a first-class fighting army and modernize the political army that now exists.

Tether's End—The Vietnamese appear to have just about reached the end of their tether. Economic difficulties, the deployment of a massive army—about a third to a half in foreign lands—in endless war, use of chemical warfare agents against helpless civilians, genocidal policies against their own and other people, their continued efforts to suppress anti-Government activity in the occupied south, and increasing Soviet intrusion in Vietnamese affairs all have combined to weaken the Vietnamese case internally and externally.

As it stands at the moment, it is likely that the PRC will this year launch another campaign against the Vietnamese. In all probability, this operation, like the previous one, will be limited to the creation of a "dead zone," perhaps as much as 100 kilometers wide, to preclude Vietnamese operations against China and perhaps the occupation or annexation of certain strategic areas along the border.

If the operation does occur, look for the Chinese to find themselves hampered by the effectiveness of their own demolitions in Vietnam, which virtually eliminated all roads and trails in some strategic areas—and which the Vietnamese haven't yet repaired. Vietnamese resistance will probably be stronger than before, because more men have received military training and

are available for operations. Furthermore, the Vietnamese haven't been wasting their time and have constructed fixed obstacles, fighting positions, and fortified command posts in anticipation of such a new operation by China.

In spite of these preparations, the Vietnamese outlook may very well be bleak. The Chinese have the overwhelming advantage in manpower, firepower and probably of surprise as well. They would be irresponsible not to use these advantages to their fullest. The Vietnamese hold a couple of wild cards, however. They have considerable stocks of Soviet-supplied chemical weapons, and have not hesitated to use them in the past when in a military stalemate. The PRC has a limited NBC capability and couldn't respond in kind to a massive Vietnamese "first use" situation. Furthermore, the USSR is deeply established in Vietnam and has built up bases for its Pacific Fleet in the country, bases the USSR would be loath to lose, if the Chinese continued their attack beyond limited objectives, and should the Soviets opt for action against the Chinese, it would have to be military action. (Since there is little trade between the USSR and China, there is no way the USSR could pressure Chinese trading partners, and there is no real political contact between the two countries to suddenly break off with appropriate dramatic fanfare.)

If the Soviets do decide to escalate to the military option, they will have a choice of using relatively minor demonstrations, which in the past have proven to be unimportant to the Chinese Government, or would have to strike hard enough militarily so that the action would have an immediate effect on China by attacking important industrial centers in Manchuria, and Chinese nuclear installations.

War—If the Soviets do more than just threaten to attack China, the results could be a devastating general war, which could, if the Soviet armies bog down in China, escalate to the point at which each side would carry out nuclear strikes against strategic targets in the other nation's territory. Given the PRC's emphasis on civil defense, it would be unlikely that their military and political leaders would hesitate to launch a preemptive strike against the Soviets, should China's political existence be threatened seriously. Needless to say, the United States would be heavily involved in an effort to prevent escalation to this point, but might find itself in the unenviable position of standing aside while these two nuclear powers fight it out.

In summary, then, it's possible that a major border incident could break out between the Vietnamese and the Chinese this year, and, unless both sides make every effort to keep the conflict localized and at low intensity, it could escalate to the stage of world war. ●

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Staff Report



La Duke craftsmanship is reflected in the Bowie-type survival knife and handmade shuriken.

▲ The no-slip handle is a spongy neoprene motorcycle twist-grip cover.

MIKE LA DUKE IS a Hoosier who was a winner of one of *American Survival Guide's* Gun Giveaway drawings in 1983, and Mike and the ASG staff have kept up the friendship ever since. La Duke makes knives for a living. The Bowie-type survival blade and the throwing star shown in the accompanying photos are his work.

The survival knife blade is ground from heat-treated 440 stainless steel, hardened to 57-59 on the Rockwell C Scale. The handle is made from 304 non-magnetic stainless, and is threaded for a cap pommel. The pommel covers a 0.75- by 3-inch tubular cavity inside the handle. An O-ring seals the pommel to the handle.

The blade is 7.5 inches long, and the handle is 5 inches long for an overall length of 12.5 inches. The knife's weight is 26 ounces. The non-slip grip is a sponge neoprene motorcycle handlebar grip.

The handle is connected to the 1.25-inch tang of the blade by two 0.125-inch stainless steel pins. The handle cavity in the tang area is filled with super-strength epoxy. This "Gypsy" blade, No. HH-001, and others like it, in purchasers choice of black, sand-blasted or mirror-finished blade, sells for \$150, with sheath.

La Duke also makes shuriken—throwing stars—for sale where they remain legal, but he'd rather explain how to "do it yourself."

"The materials needed," La Duke advises, "are some 1/8-inch sheet steel, a hacksaw, a vice, a bench grinder or file,



The pommel is threaded into the handle, and sealed with an O-ring. The tubular cavity can cache survival items for the owner's particular needs.

and sandpaper. If the style you choose to make has curves, buy a Remington Grit-Edge Saw. It will cut curves that a hacksaw can't manage.

"The process is simple: lay out your design, clamp the metal in the vice, and cut out the star. Smooth the edges, then polish the sides with sandpaper. Don't worry about sharpening the edges—just make sure that all the points are filed to sharp chisel points. Those points will penetrate well.

"To throw a shuriken, hold it between thumb and forefinger, with the remainder of the fingers underneath the shuriken, keeping it level. Keep your wrist straight in line with your forearm, then whip your forearm forward.

"The main thing is to practice," La Duke adds.

To order knives, or talk shuriken, contact Mike (Gypsy) La Duke, Rt. 1, Box 111, Dept. ASG, Maukport, IN 47142, phone (812) 732-4869. ●

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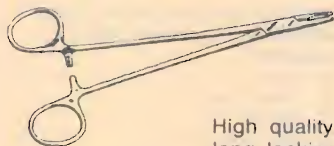
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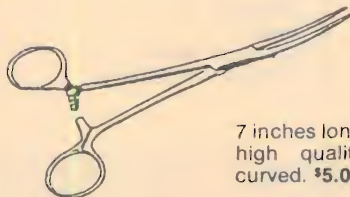
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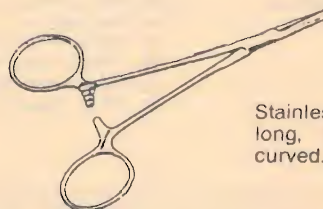
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SURVIVAL SELF-TEST

By Glenn A. Anderson

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How much do you really know about the signs and habits of the animals that commonly inhabit the North American wilderness? This month's Self-Test concludes a 3-part mini series of questions taken from the *Complete Book of Outdoor Lore and Woodcraft*, by Clyde Ormond, published by Outdoor Life Books, Times Mirror Magazines, Inc., 350 Madison Ave., Dept. ASG, New York, NY 10017, and distributed by Harper and Row Publishers, Inc., 10 East

53rd Street, New York, NY 10022. This Self-Test contains especially selected information on animal signs and habits of 20 species of animals important to man for meat or pelts. Test yourself, then obtain a copy of the *Complete Book of Outdoor Lore and Woodcraft*, and study those areas where the Self-Test has revealed your weaknesses.

1. In elk country, you are most likely to hear a bull bugle at:
 - A. Dawn.
 - B. Dusk.
 - C. Mid-day.
 - D. Either A or B above.
2. The Whitetailed Deer will place the hind foot on top of the print of the front foot when it is:
 - A. Bounding.
 - B. Galloping.
 - C. Trotting.
 - D. Walking.
3. A startled deer takes off at a gallop in high, bounding leaps. You don't see the animal clearly, but know that it is a Mule Deer, as its tracks reveal it has:
 - A. Come down with its hind feet behind the front ones.
 - B. Come down with its hind feet in front of the front ones.
 - C. Left the imprint of its dew claws in the soil.
 - D. Left no imprint of dew claws in the soil.
4. A moose wallow is most readily identified by:
 - A. Sight.
 - B. Sound.
 - C. Smell.
 - D. Touch.
5. Though similar to the tracks of a Mule Deer, the tracks of an antelope will always lack:
 - A. A heart-shaped configuration.
 - B. Dew claw marks.
 - C. Pointed toes.
 - D. Depth of impression.
6. The tracks of an adult desert sheep can be very confusing, because it is difficult to:
 - A. Tell the correct age of the prints.
 - B. Determine the animal's gait.
 - C. Separate rams, ewes, and kids.
 - D. Judge direction of travel.
7. Of the following animals, which retains its white coat year around?
 - A. Desert Bighorn.
 - B. Dall Sheep.
 - C. Rocky Mountain Goat.
 - D. Stone Sheep.
8. The sound of a heavy rain of acorns being shaken out of the tree tops is a good sign of what animal hard at work?
 - A. Beaver.
 - B. Black Bear.
 - C. Red Squirrel.
 - D. Woodchuck.
9. Along the western U.S./Canadian border you stumble on the half-eaten carcass of a large animal which has been partly covered with forest debris. You should:
 - A. Circle the carcass, looking for bear sign.
 - B. Bury the carcass, report to a ranger.
 - C. Keep an eye peeled for a mountain lion.
 - D. Leave the area immediately.
10. You are most likely to encounter the tracks of a Grey Wolf in which of the following geographical areas?
 - A. Eastern Oregon.
 - B. Northern Michigan.
 - C. Southern California.
 - D. Western South Dakota.
11. A coyote den is characterized by:
 - A. A semicircle of dirt around the entrance.
 - B. The lack of any dirt around the entrance.
 - C. The lack of a visible entrance.
 - D. A perfectly circular entrance.
12. The primary reason you will not often observe a cougar in the wilds of North America is because of its:
 - A. Slyness.
 - B. Coloration.
 - C. Nocturnal habits.
 - D. Limited range.
13. The odor coming from the den of a Red Fox often has a:
 - A. Jasmine-like perfume.
 - B. Visible vapor trail.
 - C. Mild skunk-like smell.
 - D. Bitter, copper after-taste.
14. Discarded clam shells and crawfish remains beside a stream are sure indications of the presence of a:
 - A. Raccoon.
 - B. Beaver.
 - C. Mink.
 - D. Oppossum.
15. A half-inch wide drag trail between a pair of tracks bearing partly webbed hind feet tell the tale of the passing of a:
 - A. Beaver.
 - B. Muskrat.
 - C. Badger.
 - D. Porcupine.
16. Around bivouac, a porcupine can make hash out of your:
 - A. Water cooler.
 - B. Ice chest.
 - C. Tent ropes.
 - D. Axe handle.
17. Of the following animals, which has the habit of burrowing under the snow for several yards, then continuing its journey on the surface?
 - A. Weasel.
 - B. Ground Squirrel.
 - C. Muskrat.
 - D. Badger.
18. You are most likely to find a martin at home in a:
 - A. River bank den.
 - B. Tree.
 - C. Rock formation.
 - D. Hillside burrow.
19. Which animal can be most easily detected by the midden which it constructs?
 - A. Mink.
 - B. Woodchuck.
 - C. Martin.
 - D. Red Squirrel.
20. What animal is most likely to be encountered resting in a "form" during the day?
 - A. Antelope.
 - B. Badger.
 - C. Cottontail Rabbit.
 - D. Thirteen-lined Squirrel.

SCORING:

For each Survival Self-Test question answered correctly, score yourself 5 points. Then add them up. If your total is:

Below 70 Visit the city zoo.

70-80 Spend a day on the farm.

80-90 Take a walk in the woods.

90-100 Hike in the high country.

ANSWERS:

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 20-C | 16-D | 12-C | 8-B | 4-C |
| 19-D | 15-B | 11-A | 7-C | 3-A |
| 18-B | 14-A | 10-B | 6-A | 2-D |
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MURDER

Severe emotional disturbance is a common trait among killers . . .

By Jim Benson

Statistical Material, Courtesy of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice

IN PREPARATION for nuclear holocaust, cataclysmic earthquake or other disasters, survivalists may overlook a more immediate threat to their existence: murder.

Despite a recent decline in the number of murders committed, annual totals are still double those of two decades ago. In addition to a rise in murders among relatives and friends, more stranger-to-stranger homicides occur today than ever before.

Learning the symptoms of murderous behavior is worthwhile for survivalists, particularly those who form groups.

*'Serial killers
seem familiar
with police
routine . . .'*

Screening of survival group candidates may mean the difference between a cohesive, effective group and one disrupted or destroyed by violence and death.

Upswing—Someone is murdered every 27 minutes in the United States, FBI crime statistics reveal.

This nation saw a dramatic upswing in murder and other brutal crimes during the 1960s and '70s. Murders reached an all-time high of 23,044 victims in 1980, and since have declined 10 percent.

Current statistics show an estimated 19,308 murders committed annually. This represents a murder rate of 8 per 100,000

Most Likely:

VICTIM PROFILE

*Probabilities show you'll
know your killer . . .*

STATISTICS SHOW the person who is most likely to become a murder victim, the weapon most likely to be used in commission of the murder, and the individual who most likely will be the murderer. Summarized, these statistics draw a victim profile, as follows:

- Urban dweller.
- White.
- Male.
- Under 35 years of age.
- A handgun is the death weapon.
- A white acquaintance is the killer.
- Murder stems from an argument.
- No other known motive.

Do you fit the victim profile? Do you have a relationship to someone who displays the potential to become a murderer? Become cautious with friends and/or relatives who may exhibit patterns of repeated violence. The next murder victim could be you. •

inhabitants. More people are killed in urban areas, 9 per 100,000, than in rural areas, 6 per 100,000.

Approximately 76 percent of all murder victims are male. An average of 55 out of every 100 are white, 43 are black and 2 are persons of other races.

Murders are most likely to be intraracial, or occurring within the same race.

Of black murder victims, 94 percent are murdered by blacks, while 88 percent of the white victims are slain by whites.

Male victims are most often murdered by males, 81 percent in single-victim/single-offender situations.

Ninety percent of female victims, how-

ever, are killed by males.

In cases where weapons are reported used, firearms, particularly handguns, are the favorite choice of murderers.

Of the latest murders recorded, 44 percent, or 10,895 are committed by handguns. Another 7 percent, or 1,243 of the victims die by shotgun blasts, 4 percent by rifle shots and 3 percent by other or unknown firearms.

Additionally, 4,075 people are murdered with stabbing or cutting instruments, the second most common murder weapons.

Another 1,062 die from blows by blunt instruments, 1,280 victims meet their

*'Stress tends
to reenforce
patterns of
violence . . .'*

deaths by "personal" weapons of the murderers such as fists and feet. The rest die by poison, explosives, fire, narcotics, drowning, strangulation and asphyxiation or other weapons.

Of all people arrested for murder in the latest statistical year, 41 percent are under 25 years old, with 7 percent of the total being 17 or younger. The 18- to 24-year-old group shows the greatest involvement in murder, with 34 percent of those arrested falling into this category.

Fifty percent of those arrested for murder are black and 49 percent are white. The remaining 1 percent comprise persons of other ethnic groups.

MURDER VICTIMS: THEIR BACKGROUNDS

Age	Number	Percent ¹	Sex			Race				Ethnic Origin		
			Male	Female	Unknown	White	Black	Other	Unknown	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Unknown
Total	18,673		14,107	4,548	18	10,254	7,930	403	86	2,856	11,644	4,173
Percent		100.0	75.5	24.4	.1	54.9	42.5	2.2	.5	15.3	62.4	22.3
Infant (under 1)....	220	1.2	111	108	1	124	82	9	5	25	137	58
1 to 4	346	1.9	197	149	—	176	164	6	—	40	218	88
5 to 9	135	.7	75	60	—	85	46	4	—	17	90	28
10 to 14	192	1.0	121	71	—	126	65	1	—	31	109	52
15 to 19	1,435	7.7	1,069	366	—	748	657	29	1	274	829	332
20 to 24	3,066	16.4	2,371	695	—	1,583	1,402	68	13	575	1,821	670
25 to 29	3,164	16.9	2,481	683	—	1,600	1,483	75	6	530	1,943	691
30 to 34	2,501	13.4	1,969	532	—	1,275	1,166	55	5	453	1,529	519
35 to 39	1,833	9.8	1,435	398	—	1,017	770	39	7	281	1,159	393
40 to 44	1,330	7.1	1,059	271	—	755	545	29	1	195	844	291
45 to 49	958	5.1	725	233	—	576	355	26	1	134	628	196
50 to 54	847	4.5	675	172	—	514	307	26	—	101	547	199
55 to 59	687	3.7	515	172	—	414	263	9	1	48	485	154
60 to 64	533	2.9	415	118	—	321	205	6	1	29	372	132
65 to 69	369	2.0	255	114	—	249	115	4	1	24	263	82
70 to 74	277	1.5	183	94	—	187	86	4	—	14	206	57
75 and over ..	489	2.6	229	260	—	357	127	4	1	24	358	107
Unknown	291	1.6	222	52	17	147	92	9	43	61	106	124

¹Because of rounding, percentages may not add to total.

MURDER VICTIMS: BY WEAPONS USED

Weapon	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Total	20,591	21,860	20,053	19,485	18,673
Total Firearm	13,040	13,650	12,523	11,721	10,895
Handgun	9,459	10,012	9,193	8,474	8,193
Rifle	1,075	1,124	968	1,017	831
Shotgun	1,719	1,636	1,528	1,377	1,243
Other gun	40	53	82	38	19
Firearm not stated	747	825	752	815	609
Cutting or stabbing instrument	3,954	4,212	3,886	4,065	4,075
Blunt object (club, hammer, etc.)	997	1,094	1,038	957	1,062
Personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.) ¹	1,165	1,282	1,132	1,298	1,280
Poison	13	17	12	19	20
Explosives	8	21	16	12	5
Fire	276	291	258	279	216
Narcotics	21	12	20	16	17
Drowning	64	49	51	52	40
Strangulation	402	401	337	359	376
Asphyxiation	100	104	150	108	123
Other weapon or weapon not stated	551	727	630	599	564

¹Pushed is included in personal weapons.

MOTIVES: MURDER CIRCUMSTANCES

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
TOTAL	18,673	19,485	20,053	21,860	20,591
PERCENT ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FELONY TOTAL	18.0	17.7	17.2	17.7	16.9
Robbery	10.6	10.7	10.4	10.8	10.5
Narcotics	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.9
Sex offenses	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6
Arson8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.0
Other felony	3.1	2.7	2.5	2.5	1.9
SUSPECTED FELONY	3.2	5.2	5.5	6.7	5.3
ARGUMENT TOTAL	43.7	40.9	42.2	44.6	42.9
Romantic triangle	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.4
Influence of alcohol and/or narcotics ²	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.8	4.5
Property or money	2.8	3.2	3.0	2.6	3.0
Other arguments	34.1	31.3	32.5	35.0	33.0
OTHER MOTIVES OR CIRCUMSTANCES	14.2	16.7	17.1	15.9	17.2
UNKNOWN MOTIVES	20.9	19.6	17.8	15.1	17.7

¹Because of rounding, percentages may not add to totals.

²Murders committed during arguments while under influence of narcotics are not counted in felony murders.

Some 57 percent of murders are perpetrated by relatives or acquaintances of the victims. Family relationships are involved in 19 percent of all the killings, half of which involve spouse killing spouse.

Arguments result in 44 percent of all the murders, while 21 percent occur as a result of felonious or suspected felonious activities. Romantic triangles, miscellaneous non-felony activities or unknown causes account for the rest of the murders.

But while more than half of all murders involve relatives or acquaintances of victims, law enforcement authorities express alarm at the striking increase in murders committed by strangers for no apparent motive.

A Department of Justice study finds that of the approximately 11,000 murders committed in the country in 1966, 644 or 5.9 percent occurred for no known motive. By

the latest statistically documented year, 21 percent of the murders are without apparent motive.

The rise in motiveless killings has led officials to note a new type of murderer on the American scene, dubbed the "serial killer."

What is known about serial killers indicates that they are very mobile, ready to move on quickly to new locations after killing one or more persons.

Many of these murderers are considered highly intelligent and able to persuade their victims to accompany them to where the victims can be easily killed and disposed of without notice.

Serial killers also seem familiar with police routines and can cover up their crimes well, making their detection and capture difficult.

One justice department official esti-

mated that at least 35 serial killers are roaming the country. Their victims tend to be women and children or anyone who is likely to offer little resistance.

Reasons—Many theories about why murders happen have been set forth over the years by professionals in the crime field.

One of the main hypotheses is that murderers often have strong feelings of inadequacy or weakness. Their killings can be viewed as acts to compensate for these feelings, as messages to the world demonstrating their power.

Some social scientists contend criminal behavior and murder especially are rooted in biological factors and that violent criminals are born rather than produced from their surroundings.

For example, researchers find in one

MURDER

THE MURDERERS: THEIR VICTIMS

Victim	Total victims/ offenders	Offender									
		Race				Sex			Ethnic Origin		
		White	Black	Other race	Unknown	Male	Famel	Unknown	Hispanic	Non- Hispanic	Unknown
Race											
White	5,851	5,163	592	66	30	5,099	722	30	1,408	3,424	1,019
Black	5,210	245	4,919	13	33	4,093	1,084	33	140	3,779	1,291
Other race	214	63	19	131	1	194	19	1	17	158	39
Unknown	27	8	5	—	14	11	2	14	2	5	20
Sex											
Male	8,453	3,948	4,302	153	50	6,869	1,534	50	1,299	5,401	1,753
Female	2,822	1,523	1,228	57	14	2,517	291	14	266	1,960	596
Unknown	27	8	5	—	14	11	2	14	2	5	20
Ethnic Origin											
Hispanic	1,519	1,317	181	7	14	1,392	113	14	1,240	212	67
Non-Hispanic	7,450	3,204	4,041	167	38	6,097	1,315	38	249	7,127	74
Unknown	2,333	958	1,313	36	26	1,908	399	26	78	27	2,228
Totals	11,302	5,479	5,535	210	78	9,397	1,827	78	1,567	7,366	2,369

study that a significantly higher proportion of violent criminals have more XYY chromosomal constitutions than do members of the non-criminal population.

Other researchers conclude that brain damage and use of alcohol and drugs are strong contributing elements in murderous and other criminal behavior.

Two experts in criminal behavior, Albert Ellis and John Gullo, find that for single as well as multiple murderers, severe emotional disturbance is a common trait, often occurring in these individuals from childhood onward.

They and other investigators assert that murderers tend to be highly disturbed individuals.

Ellis and Gullo hypothesize that "killers are usually aberrant personalities and they frequently inherit a predisposition to be pathologically inclined, to be insensitive to the hurts of others, and to be angry and sadistic, as well as being environmentally influenced.

"Their chief goal in life is often to show how great they are. Because they do not honestly and directly achieve this goal, they feel underlyingly inadequate; and they cover up this deep-seated feeling of inadequacy with abrasive, overrebellious, inconsiderate behavior which finally reaches murderous dimensions. A goodly number of them can be diagnosed as paranoid schizophrenics; another high proportion are likewise psychotic or near psychotic; and only a small percentage of them are truly sane."

Characteristics—One Freudian-oriented investigator, David Abrahamsen, says people who kill usually share certain characteristics. These include difficulty in communicating, rebellion against parents,

little or no identification with male role models, a rich fantasy life, feelings of unworthiness, the desire for revenge, fears, frustration and depression. Anti-social or criminal records and histories of mental disturbances are also common factors.

Of course many people manifest one or more of these characteristics without murdering. What then is the difference between them and murderers?

Abrahamsen offers one explanation in what he calls "the often perplexingly close

'Killers are usually aberrant personalities . . .'

tie between killer and victim." "The relationship (of victim and victimizer) is almost unconscious," according to Abrahamsen, a respected medical authority on violence. "Some people have a tendency to expose themselves, invite danger whereby they are killed or hurt. Wherever a crime is committed there is a victim."

Abrahamsen advocates scientific scrutiny of the relationship, where it exists, between murderer and victim to better assess "the part each played in the events leading up to the final act of murder . . . Homicide is in many instances provoked or stimulated unconsciously by the victim."

He notes that much of what is known

about victim/murderer relationships comes from the study of sex crimes like rape and prostitution.

In these cases, Abrahamsen says, "the attitude of the victim varies from being unsuspecting, indifferent, submissive, to actively provoking the attack."

"The victim-victimizer relationship," he observes, "is present in most types of murder, between lovers, be they heterosexual or homosexual, and between parents and children. Even in gangster murders, we frequently find an emotional relationship, though at times only a tenuous one."

He suggests that potential victims must become keenly aware of the roles they play.

"To avoid becoming a victim of murder, assault or rape will in the last analysis depend on how well the person is able to refrain from getting emotionally involved with someone who is potentially dangerous to one's life and welfare."

Survivalist View—In terms of survival, the stated goal is to stay alive, no matter what. Thus it benefits the wary survivalist to take a fresh look at his friends and acquaintances, perhaps survival group members, and analyze their conduct for possible destructive behavior.

The individual who is a friend, but who loses his temper, and is prone to fits of violence, fighting and battery, may not be the individual the self-reliant survivalist should take into his confidence, or into his survival group.

Stress tends to reenforce established patterns of violent behavior. Any survival crisis will create emotional stress. It goes without saying then, that survivalists should take care to not harbor potential killers in their midst. ●

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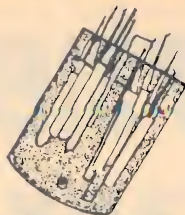
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LETTER OPENERS

Easily concealable, they won't trigger a metal detector...

By Tony Lesce

Shown left to right are the Executive Letter Opener, the Stinger, and the Russell. At the far left is a 6-inch/15cm rule for gauging sizes.



A TRIO OF fiberglass knives that are concealable and can pass through metal detectors is available from various sources.

The Executive Letter Opener is made by CM&T Co. The Stinger is manufactured by Choate and sold through L.L. Baston Co. The third is an A.G. Russell product.

These daggers aren't sharp out of the box, but a quick touch-up with a file will put an edge to the plastic blades. The knives weigh from less than 1 ounce to 2 ounces, depending on the model, and the lengths are from 7 to 8 inches, overall. All feature molded-in lanyard holes in their handles.

One mode of carry is to loop the lanyard line around the neck so that the knife hangs down inside the shirt, whence it is easily retrievable with a tug on the lanyard.

The hole in the handle can be used for a wrist loop as well.

Methods of carry are limited only by the owners imagination. Some are:

- Taped to the skin of the body, as on the inside of the thigh, or under an armpit;
- Tucked under a watch band;
- Tucked into a boot or sock, with the cuff of the sock rolled over the knife's handle;
- In a pocket;
- In a paper bag;
- In a rolled-up newspaper; or
- In a briefcase, wallet or purse.

These sell under names such as "Executive Letter Opener" as they can be put to this and other legitimate uses.

The knives are made of fiberglass-impregnated nylon, and, being non-metallic, plastic, have no affect on electric fields generated by the induction coils of various metal detection devices. Neither will one of these knives appear on an X-Ray photograph, nor can it be seen in a fluoroscopic examination.

Anyone with a requirement for personal defense will find these knives convenient for taking aboard commercial aircraft. It is inadvisable, however, to make the concealed weapon's presence known to airline personnel.

The knives are corrosion-resistant, almost unbreakable, very light and thin. Their color, usually dull black or dark green, is impregnated into the plastic material, so it will not wear or flake off, as would paint. Their light weight will not make clothing or pockets sag, which would prove a giveaway.

The knives' edges do not remain sharp, as will steel blades, but are easy to sharpen. The points, straight from the factory, are more than sharp enough to penetrate garments and the flesh underneath.

These knives are available from CM&T Co., P.O. Box 218, Dept. ASG, Bald Knob, AR 72010; L.L. Baston Co., P.O. Box 1995, Dept. ASG, El Dorado, AR 71730; and A.G. Russell Co., 1705 Highway 71 North, Dept. ASG, Springdale, AR 72784.

In addition to the knives, also available are punch daggers and straight-edged punch weapons that can enhance a handful of knuckles with a stabbing point or a slicing edge. ●

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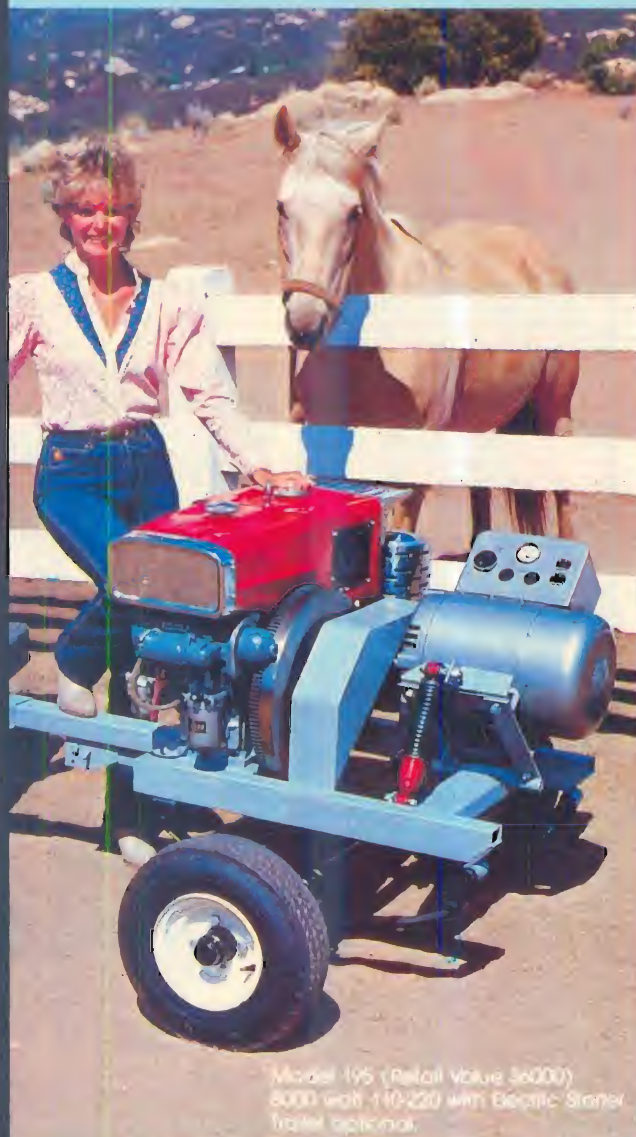
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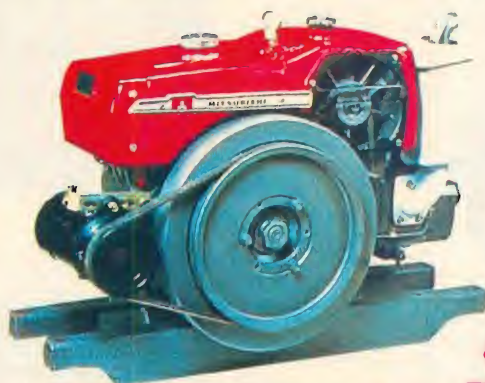
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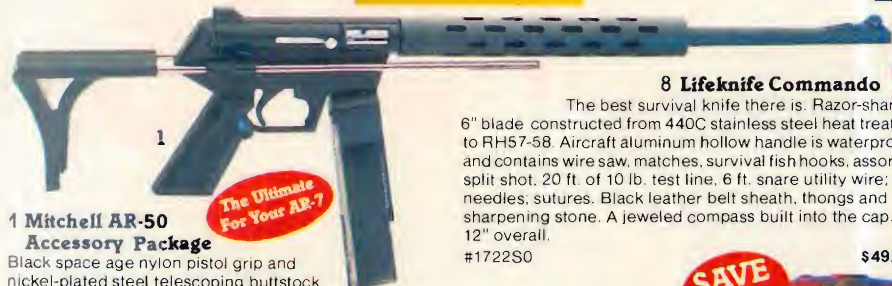
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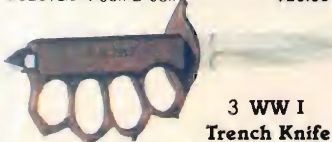
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10 USAF L-2B Flight Jacket

Official Air Force Lightzone (Lightweight issue). Sage Green with International Orange lining 100% polyester with knit collar, cuffs and waistband. 2 pockets plus zipper cigarette pocket on left sleeve. Sizes: S, M, L, XL. #012900 ~~\$49.95~~ Sale \$39.95

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ASSAULT SYSTEMS HONDA TRX200

Tricked out with battle gear, this sturdy little vehicle can double as a ranch hand . . .

Staff Evaluation

PHOTOS BY DAVE EPPERSON



The Assault Systems TRX200, shown above, proves itself in the pinyon scrub, blending in with its surroundings, carrying weapons, and providing off-road transport.

CAMOED AND CASED, its single headlamp ablaze as it skitters across the terrain, the Assault Systems Honda TRX200 off-road vehicle presents a fierce, battle-ready look, perhaps to be a defender of a survival group. Though this vehicle is tricked-out in warlike gear, it can double as a tug for up to 700 pounds of trailer and cargo, as an auxiliary power unit for electrical hand tools or for starting aircraft engines, say, or as a sprayer for row crops. Moreover, for any task it accomplishes, the TRX200 uses very little fuel in so doing. "Versatile" is the TRX200's middle name.

The 1984 model TRX was done-up by Assault Systems, the St. Louis, Missouri, weapons case manufacturer, as a showpiece to promote its products at firearms fairs, mercenary conventions and the like. The camouflaged four-wheeled TRX has been an eye-catcher everywhere it has been displayed.

Now it is First Prize in *American Survival Guide's* 1985 Blockbuster Bonanza subscription giveaway. (See Pages 53, 54 and 55 for details of the giveaway, subscription-order/entry-form, rules, and a complete list of prizes.)

Duded Up—As treated by Assault Systems, the TRX is painted and taped in olive drab, brown and black camo. In addition, the right-hand side of the vehicle

carries a detachable work light, an assault rifle case, a first aid kit on the front fender, and a pistol holster on the right rear fender. The left-hand side is fitted with an all-purpose pouch, a tool carrier complete with a BenchMark S.O.S. survival knife and wire cutters, and a plastic-cased entrenching tool on the left rear fender.

Up front, atop the forward cargo rack, coiled and bungeed down, are two 100-foot lengths of nylon line, suitable for mountaineering, or tethering stock, maybe. At the sides of the rear cargo rack are two Assault Systems 2-cubic-foot all-purpose transport cases, adequate for any additional gear a survivalist may need.

Underneath all of this cosmetic treatment is a standard Honda TRX200, sturdy, tough and willing.

Standard Model—The TRX was designed as a micro workhorse, as well as a fun-runner. Honda's literature for the vehicle depicts the TRX towing bailed hay to cattle on the range, hauling a trailer load of feed sacks, carrying tools and rolls of roofing to a construction project, and transporting a fisherman and his lunch to a High Sierra trout stream. Obviously, the TRX was designed with two things in mind—work and play.

Powering the TRX is a single-cylinder,

4-cycle engine of 200cc nominal piston displacement, clearly developed from Honda's small-displacement motorcycle and 3-wheeler ATV powerplant lineup. Power from the engine's crankshaft goes through a centrifugal clutch at the right side, through a half-shaft to the transmission, and then through some helical gears and a sealed universal joint and a tubular driveshaft to the rear drive axle. Much like a car or truck, a ring and pinion gearset in the rear axle center section delivers power to the rear wheels. This rear drive, however, does not provide a differential function, hence both wheels deliver equal tractive power at all times. If a TRX rear wheel is on the ground, it grabs and goes. There is no spinning of one wheel while the other remains motionless in a typical "stuck" situation.

The main gearbox offers 5 speeds forward. The dual-range gearbox features a high range and a low range, plus a reverse cog. Thus the TRX is capable of 10 speeds forward, and only one in reverse.

In top gear, "5th high," the TRX is capable of (smooth) road speeds up to approximately 40 mph. In "1st low," the TRX performs like a miniature John Deere—which means that it is meeting its design parameters perfectly.

The engine is fired by a single spark plug, and draws air through a dry foam ►



Clockwise, from top left, the Assault Systems treatment of the TRX200 includes 200 feet of nylon line, a first aid kit, an assault rifle case, a pistol holster, a pair of all-purpose carrying cases, a trenching tool (not shown), a tool pouch with wire cutters and survival knife, and a zippered pouch. All components are in a green-black camouflage scheme.

filter which is located under the removable seat in a sheetmetal airbox. The battery is similarly mounted under the solo seat. The TRX 12-volt electrical system supplies power for the capacitive-discharge ignition system, the high/low-beam headlamp, the optional work light, and a 10-amp auxiliary power receptacle. The rear cargo rack has fittings to accommodate an optional Honda electrical generator as a quick bolt-on.

Suspension—The TRX is something like a small automobile, or a cross between a motorcycle and a car, or perhaps its a 3-wheeler with an extra wheel.

Its capability for either all-terrain travel or for cultivating the ranch garden is a function of its wheel suspension. Up front, there's a leaf out of Volkswagen's first edition independent trailing arms, sprung by a transverse torsion bar, and damped by coil springs over telescopic shock absorbers. At the rear, the design is more like that of a firebreathing motocross competition motorcycle: one large swinging arm, damped by a single, large-diameter hydraulic shock absorber; the driveshaft is housed inside the swinging arm and the articulation of the arm—the hinge—is provided by the U-joint, and the flexible seal.

The TRX's chasis is a combination of tubular members and molded plastic panels. Fenders are flexible, which is benefit for people who choose to run the vehicle through heavy brush and rocks. Skidplates underneath protect the tender parts of the engine and transmission.

The TRX is fitted with a bush-pusher up front, and tubular steel cargo racks front and rear, the forward unit with 66 pounds cargo capacity, the rear unit with 132 pounds of cargo carrying capability.

Starting—Once the TRX is started and warmed up, it moves right along. But getting it started, well, that's a different



This photo shows the ignition switch, choke handle and neutral and reverse enunciator lights.



A thumb latch sets the mechanical rear brake for parking.



Headlamp remains illuminated at all times.



The fuel tank cap has an air vent knob.



Under the removable seat are the air filter, 12-volt battery, and the upper rear shock mount.



Left side view of the engine shows fuel tap, top, recoil starter, center, and foot shift lever.



Brake adjustment is with these wingnuts and toggles.



The left handlebar carries the "Run" switch, the headlamp dipper, and the start button.



Right side view shows foot peg and brake lever, bottom, exhaust pipe heat shield and plug.



Optional work lamp can be removed for use.



Trailing arms, torsion bar, and coil-over shocks provide independent front wheel suspension.



At the right grip is the hydraulic cylinder for the front brakes.



A single swinging arm and a single shock provide rear axle travel. The exhaust system has an efficient spark arrestor.

matter. The drill goes something like this: fuel tap "On," ignition switch "On," run switch on "Run," carburetor choke pull handle out, dual-range gearbox in one of two forward gears but not in reverse (which would be indicated by a red light on the enunciator panel), main gearbox in neutral (indicated by a green light on the panel), and, finally a push on the electric "Start" button. Alternative to the electric starter is a pull/recoil starter at the left side of the engine housing.

If the starting procedure has been conducted properly, the TRX's engine fires immediately. If one step is overlooked, the engine won't start, or the starting motor won't crank the engine, or the engine won't get fuel, or spark, or . . . This is not a turn-key operation.

Novice TRX riders discovered to their dismay that the complex starting procedure got them into some difficulty when climbing hills, or attempting to back the vehicle out of a pickup bed, or otherwise maneuvering the vehicle, and experiencing an engine stoppage, then being faced with the manipulation of all those levers and buttons to accomplish a restart while hanging onto the two handlebar brake levers, and mashing down on the right-side brake pedal just in case.

Binders—Speaking of brakes, the TRX's two front hydraulic drum brakes, and its single rear mechanical drum brake are more than adequate for slowing and stopping the vehicle on a steep hillside—given some tractive surface other than wet grass or loose shale. The left-hand brake lever operates the cable-actuated rear mechanical brake, as does the right-side brake pedal, whereas the right handlebar lever operates the hydraulic piston that pumps pressure to the front brake wheel cylinders. A thumb latch at the left handlebar can be engaged into a notch to hold the rear mechanical brake locked for parking. The rear brake cables from handlebar and foot pedal can be adjusted with wingnuts and tension bolts at the rear end bellcrank. All in all, the TRX's binders are well made and function very effectively, but, for experienced motorcyclists, they are operated by one control too many.

The current safety measure for over-the-road and combination dirt/street motorcycles calls for headlamps to be illuminated at all times, day and night, to provide for improved visibility. The TRX's single headlamp and paired taillights remain on at all times when the ignition switch is on. The ever-burning lights are a total non-sequitur on a camouflaged scout vehicle. For an off-road or farm vehicle, the always-illuminated lamps seem an unnecessary load on the alternator/rectifier/battery system that would perhaps reduce the system's longevity in a survival situation. In the case of the TRX being used by

ASSAULT SYSTEMS HONDA TRX200: TECH SPECS

Engine:					
Piston displacement, cubic inches (cc)	11.71 (192)				
Bore x stroke, inches (mm)	2.56 x 2.28 (65.0 x 57.8)				
Compression ratio	7.8:1				
Lubrication	wet sump				
Carburetor	2mm piston valve				
Starter	electric/pull-recoil				
Operation	4-cycle				
Electrical system:					
Volts, DC	12				
Operation	alternator/battery				
Main fuse, amperes	15				
Accessory power terminal, amperes	10				
Drivetrain:					
Power output	shaft drive				
Clutch	centrifugal, automatic				
Crankshaft-to-clutch gear ratio	3.333:1				
Drive axle ratio	4.255:1				
Transmission	dual range, 5 speeds forward, 1 in reverse.				
Gear ratios, :1	High Range		Low Range		
	Trans	Overall	Trans	Overall	
	1st 2.841	39.908	1st 4.339	61.535	
	2nd 1.767	25.059	2nd 2.698	38.262	
	3rd 1.306	18.522	3rd 2.698	28.293	
	4th 1.026	14.551	4th 1.567	22.223	
	5th 0.836	11.561	5th 1.277	17.401	
		Reverse	4.616	65.464	
Suspension:					
Front	independent, torsion bar, tubular trailing arms, coil springs over telescopic shock absorbers				
Rear	live axle on swinging arm, with single telescopic shock absorber				
Brakes:					
Front	leading shoe hydraulic, dual drums				
Rear	mechanical, single sealed alloy drum				
Parking	thumb lever lock for rear mechanical brake operating cable				
Tires:					
Front	12 x 7 — 10 flotation				
Rear	25 x 12 — 9 flotation				
Chassis:					
Wheelbase, inches (cm)	48.6 (123.4)				
Overall length, inches (cm)	73.8 (187.5)				
Width, inches (cm)	42.5 (107.9)				
Height, inches (cm)	40.0 (101.6)				
Seat height, inches (cm)	28.7 (72.9)				
Ground clearance, inches (cm)	5.9 (15.0)				
Dry weight, pounds (kg)	456.4 (207.0)				
Load capacities:					
Tongue pull weight, maximum, pounds (kg)	700 (318)				
Front cargo rack, maximum, pounds (kg)	66 (30)				
Rear cargo rack, maximum, pounds (kg)	132 (60)				
Climb capability, gradient %	45-60				
Fuel:					
Capacity, gallons (lt)	2.5 (9.5), including reserve				
Reserve, gallons (lt)	0.2 (0.76)				
Fuel weight, pounds (kg)	15 (6.8)				
Fuel grade requirement	regular leaded gasoline				
Engine oil:					
Sump capacity, quarts (lt)	1.9 (1.8)				
Oil requirement	10-40 SE or SF, winter 20-50 SE or SF, summer				
Prices, suggested retail:					
Honda TRX, Standard Model	\$2,098				
Assault Systems Model	\$5,000				
Supplier Assault Systems					
869 Horan Drive					
St. Louis, MO 63026-2478					

a survival group for night patrol or courier duty, a headlamp On/Off switch would be a mandatory modification.

The TRX's handlebars span approximately 32 inches, and they provide leverage for turning the steering shaft. At the lower rear of the steering shaft is a crank arm with a 2-inch radius. Tie rods left and right carry the rider's arm power to the wheels at an approximate mechanical

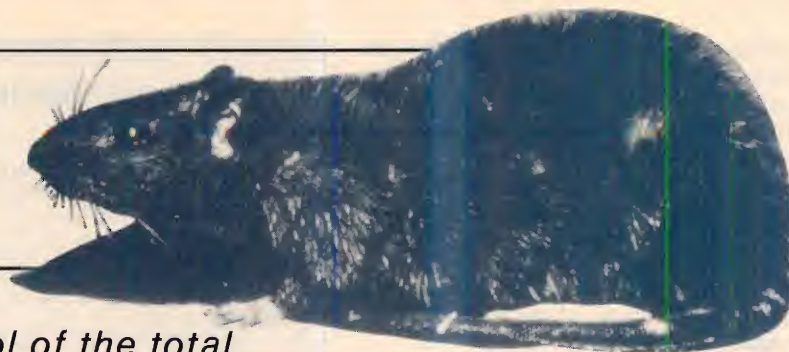
advantage of 8:1.

Rigid foot pegs with non-skid edges left and right support the rider's feet between the wheels, and offer some body stability in rough going.

The Run—*American Survival Guide's* crew regarded the Assault Systems TRX200 as a learning experience first,

(Continued on page 74)

RATS



Controlling rats requires control of the total rat population, not just individuals . . .

By Thomas H. Livers

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

BEING PREPARED means recognizing a potential threat and understanding how to neutralize it. After surviving the crisis, you will wish to protect your food stores from an enemy that only hunts at night.

The Centers for Disease Control at Atlanta, Georgia, estimates that in 1977 there were 100 million to 175 million rats, mainly *Norway* rats, in the United States. Population densities of rats per city block in some U.S. cities range from 25 to 150 rats per block. The population levels for the Norway rat are cyclic, with sudden increases related to the amount of food and shelter available. Under favorable conditions, 4,000 rats were taken on six acres on a Midwestern farm. It is possible for large scale migrations to occur following floods and fires.

The Norway rat is a ground dweller, favoring human habitats, such as sewers, cellars, storm drains, near water, and rubbish heaps. The rat digs burrows that are complete with separate entrances, sleeping rooms, storage rooms, birthing and nursery rooms, and deadend tunnels for a last ditch defense effort.

Some years after the post-World War II surface nuclear tests in the Pacific, scientists collected rats for radioactivity studies. The researchers were amazed to discover that the islands abounded with rats who had survived in large numbers because their burrows gave them protection from the effects of the nuclear explosions. The "nuclear rats" were more robust, perfectly healthy, and were so well-adapted to their environment that their lifespans were longer than the average of one year. The rats collected were neither mutants nor genetically deformed.

Rat Packs—Rats live in male-dominated packs numbering up to 200 individuals, with a dominant male, several subordinate males and numerous females. The low ranking rats are excluded from the top hierarchy and live in another section of the territory.

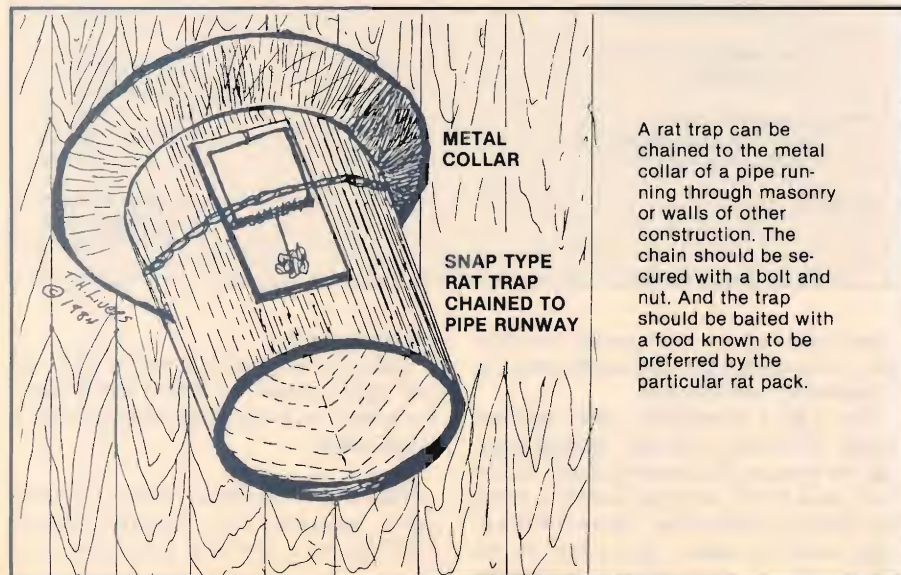
When a female comes into heat, she is pursued by several males for four to five days, during which 200 to 500 copulations will occur. Heat cycles are year-round in captivity, and appear to be spring and fall cycles in the wild. Being polyestrous,

females can produce up to 12 litters of a maximum of 22 babies (pinkies) per litter, but the average litter is only 9. The gestation period is 21 to 26 days, with the young leaving the nest after 22 days. The young attain sexual maturity in three months, if male, and a few weeks later for females. During a 1-year period, one pair of rats can produce 800 offspring. If the offspring reproduce an average of 9 babies, the potential is approximately 15,000 rats descending from the original pair. Luckily, the mortality rate and social pressures keeps the rat population down, even when food and shelter is adequate.

Danger—Rats are a hazard to humans by being disease carriers. Rats are known carriers of bubonic plague, murine typhus, food poisoning, leptospirosis, trichinosis, tularemia, and rat bite fever. During the great black death of 1347 to 1352 A.D. in Europe, an estimated 25 million people died. Plague epidemics have occurred as recently as 1926 in New Orleans. The Centers for Disease Control reports an average of 14,000 people in the U.S. each year are victims of rat bite attacks some of which have been fatal.

Rats are carnivores, eating fish and meat. They have been known to kill lambs and piglets. Rats are unique in the Animal Kingdom for being generalists, rather than specialists. Rats have the ability to pass on "traditions" of the pack to their offspring, a characteristic which is unknown in any other lower mammalian species.

Accomplishing amazing feats is commonplace to the everyday life of a rat: they can enter through an opening as small as a ½ inch; climb horizontal and vertical wires equally well; climb the *inside* of vertical pipes 1½ to 4 feet in diameter and scale the outside of pipes and conduits up to 3 inches in diameter. Rats can jump vertically 36 inches or jump horizontally 48 inches, if on a flat surface. They can drop 50 feet without being killed and also can jump 8 feet horizontally from a 15-foot elevation. Rats can reach up or sideways 18 inches with ease.



METAL
COLLAR

SNAP TYPE
RAT TRAP
CHAINED TO
PIPE RUNWAY

A rat trap can be chained to the metal collar of a pipe running through masonry or walls of other construction. The chain should be secured with a bolt and nut. And the trap should be baited with a food known to be preferred by the particular rat pack.

Rats weigh about 1 pound as an adult. Their incisor teeth grow an average of 4 to 5 inches per year, hence gnawing is important to keep the teeth worn down. Rats have a keen sense of smell and a well-developed taste. They prefer fresh food over decayed. A sense of touch is well-developed in their whiskers and coat hairs. Although they possess poor vision and are thought to be color blind, rats have a highly developed sense of hearing.

Problems—How do you know you have a rat problem? The first is the sighting of droppings which are different from other animals. A Norway rat's droppings are about a ½ to ¾ inch long and blunt at each end, whereas the Roof rat's droppings are smaller, about ⅓ to ½ inch long and pointed at each end.

Runways are always the same and the rats run them daily. The runways are free of debris and rats prefer continual contact with a vertical surface such as a wall or a fence along their runway. The runways inside a dwelling become greasy from contact with the rat's fur. The tracks of a rat can be determined by holding a flashlight at an angle to cause the rear feet tracks of five toes to cast shadows.

Controlling the rat requires control of the *total* local rat population and not just individuals. Winter is the best time to start a control program because breeding levels are at their lowest and it will take the rats 12 months to return to previous population levels. The next best times are spring and fall when it takes the rats 6 months to recover.

Home territory is approximately 100 to 150 feet radius from the burrow. Populations rarely move away from the territory unless forced to by a crisis. The environment for any mammal must have the basic needs satisfied of food, water, shelter, suit-

able climate, and reasonable protection from enemies.

- Foods favored by rats are meat, fish, cereal, and sweets. Rats have an insatiable sweet tooth for sugar, candy, molasses, syrup, raisins, and sweetened fruits.

- Water and shelters are readily available in any of the human habitats where rats exist.

- Climate is a limiting factor because if it is too cold, rats can not survive in unheated structures or in the outside.

- Protection from enemies is one population limiting factor. Through natural competition, Norway rats have replaced the Roof rat throughout large areas of the U.S. For example, in Virginia Roof rats are an endangered species. Among the members of the same species, competition through maintaining the hierarchy by fighting resulting in deaths of the weaker individuals or by forcing the losers to leave the pack. The losers that are forced out suffer high mortality rate from predators and other rat packs. Increased population levels reduces reproduction and increases the death levels.

Controls—Predators are poor and temporary controls. Cats can only kill 25 to 30 rats per year and dogs are actually worse because their sloppy eating habits encourage rats. Natural predators, such as foxes, snakes, birds, kill only a small number of rats per year, usually the weak individuals, which strengthens the gene pool of the rats.

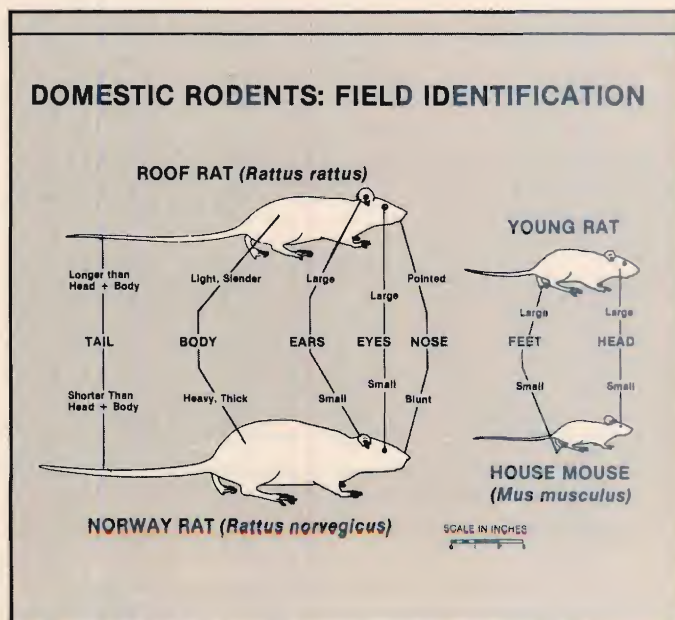
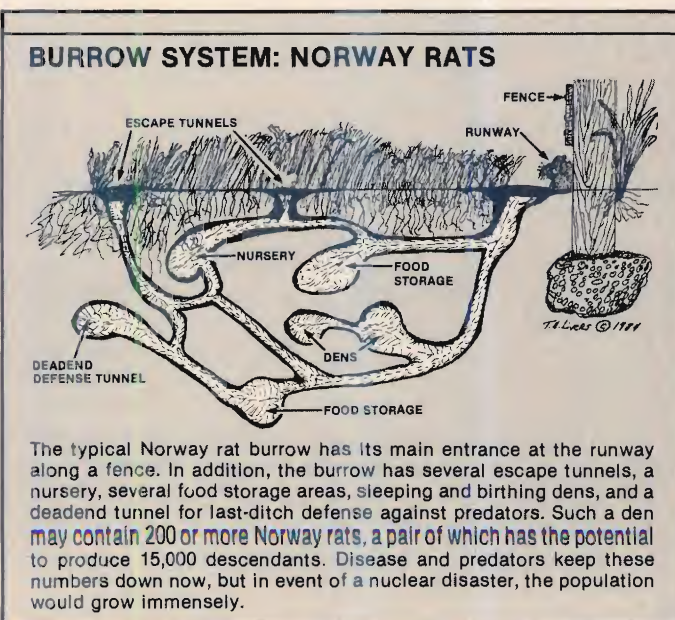
Effective control requires that the rat's environment be changed through sanitation. Trash containers of heavy-gauge steel are recommended, but not 55 gallon barrels, the lids of which may fit so loosely, once opened, that they afford access by rats. The container should have a recessed bottom, be watertight, and rust-resistant.

In food storage areas, a 6-inch-wide strip of white paint should be painted on the floor along the walls to help call attention to rat droppings. Bulk storage of food should be a minimum of 18 inches above the floor and be in tightly sealed steel or glass containers.

In the July, 1984, issue of *Survival Guide Magazine*, the article on intensive gardening recommends composting as an effective source of organic fertilizer, but composting can attract rats. Rat proof composts by using a heavy-gauge steel composter or convert a steel trash container by punching holes along the sides every 6 inches in evenly spaced rows. The number of tightly sealed trash containers needed will depend on how much compost you wish to produce annually.

Killing—To kill the rats requires that you learn the burrow sites and the runways. Once you have determined how the rats are getting into the area, then you must seal off the access. Windows and vents can be secured with heavy metal mesh in a sheetmetal frame. Around pipes, fix a metal collar to prevent rats from climbing. Floor drains, fan openings, and related means of access can be secured with metal mesh over the opening. Inspect your site, keeping in mind the things rats can achieve easily, such as jumping 3 feet vertically from a flat surface. Rats are capable of swimming sewer lines and using toilet bowl traps as entrances to homes.

Before the killing process can begin, you must determine whether the rats are harboring fleas, mites, ticks, and lice. These ectoparasites feed on the rats' blood and may be infected with any disease. When you have eliminated the rats, the ectoparasites may decide to move in with you because you have destroyed their food source. To destroy the ectoparasites on ►



RATS

rats, dust the runways and burrow entrances with an insecticide powder, such as Sevin, *before* killing the rats. The rats will carry the powder back to the burrows on their feet and fur, giving you greater killing control beyond normal methods.

Once these precautions are done, the killing procedures can begin. Snap traps placed along runways are effective. Using a board set at an angle along a well or a box to help guide the rats' natural curiosity to the trap will increase kill ratios. The proper bait is chosen after prebaiting unset traps with a variety of fresh foods favored by rats. The prebaiting helps the rats lose their instinctive fear of anything new and unusual in their territory, and it helps you learn which bait food is preferred. After a couple days of feeding the rats their favorite treats, set the snap traps. The trigger can be expanded by using cardboard or screen wire. Do not be concerned about the human smell on the traps because the smell is a daily part of the rats' environment. If the runway is over a steel pipe, secure the trap with a chain wrapped around the pipe and tied with a nut and bolt of suitable size. If the runways are in the rafters, nail the trap to the spot where the rat swings onto the rafter after crawling up the beam. This spot will be recognized by the greasy rubmark smear from contact with the rat's body.

Gassing—Gassing burrows with cyanide gas, carbon bisulfide, methyl bromide, and carbon dioxide should be best left to certified trained technicians for the danger involved for a layman outweighs the benefits.

Poisons recommended for the layman are the anticoagulants, such as warfarin, fumarin, pival, diphacinone, PMP, and chlorophacinone. Anticoagulants kill from multiple doses within 3 to 9 days by causing normal blood not to clot which results in internal bleeding and hemorrhaging. The rats do not realize they are being poisoned and return to feed on the poisoned bait often. Because rats prefer to carry food back to their burrows, the bait toss packets extend the access to the entire pack. There are reported populations of anticoagulant-resistant Norway rat populations in the U.S., but it is recommended that you use the anticoagulants, then every 6 to 12 months use a one-shot poison.

Rats do not have the ability to vomit. One-shot poisons such as red squill and zinc phosphide mixed with tartar emetic, are relatively safe to use around other animals and humans. Red squill has a bitter taste and kills by heart paralysis. Although not accepted by Roof rats, red squill is effective as a one-shot poison against Norway rats. Red squill absorbs water from the atmosphere and becomes

hard and caked unless stored in airtight containers.

Zinc phosphide has an offensive odor and taste, but rats and mice like it. Zinc phosphide kills by heart paralysis and damage to the liver and other gastrointestinal organs. It is a hazard to all who consume zinc phosphide and to prevent accidental ingestion, the poison should be mixed with an emetic (causing vomiting) by weight of 8 parts poison to 3 parts emetic.

For anticoagulants to be effective, you must be liberal in setting out bait, and continue for at least two weeks to insure as many rats as possible have the opportunity to take the poison.

Efficient bait use requires you to remove and replace moldy, wet, caked, or insect-infested bait with fresh. If the bait is undisturbed after several days, move the station to a more promising spot. Generally, bait will be eaten well the first three days, then consumption tapers off. Place the bait inside sections of pipe or inside wooden boxes with access holes cut into opposite ends. Bait can be put in shallow dishes nailed to the floor and under a board leaned at an angle over the dish set next to a wall.

Caution—Avoid inhaling fumes from

(Continued on page 75)

RODENTICIDES: THEIR CHARACTERISTICS

POISONS	Lethal Dose (mg/kg)	Percent Used in Bait	Degree of Effectiveness	Acceptance	Reseizability	Cumulative	Tolerance Developed	Odor	Taste	Chemical Deterioration in Bait	Solubility		Type of Bait Mixtures			ACTION (Cause of Death)	Relation to Humans and to Other Animals			ANTIDOTES
											Water	Oil	Dry	Fresh	Water		Secondary Poisoning	Absorbed thru Skin	Degree of Hazard in Use	
ANTICOAGULANTS Warfarin Fumarin Pival	11	0.25	Good	Good	Good	Yes	No	None	Slight	None	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Inhibits clotting of blood; causes internal hemorrhages.	Rare	No	Slight	Vitamin K and transfusions of whole blood.
ANTICOAGULANT Diphacinone Chlorophacinone	0.5 ¹	0.05	Good	Good	Good	Yes	No	None	Slight	None	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Inhibits clotting of blood; causes internal hemorrhages.	Rare	No	Slight	Vitamin K and transfusions of whole blood.
ANTU	8 ²	1.5	Good	Good	Poor	No	Yes	Slight	Medium	Slight	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Pleural effusion (overproduction of fluid in the lungs)	No	No	Medium	None
FLUOROACETAMIDE (1081)	15—Norway 51—Mice	2.0	Good	Good	Good	No	No	None	Slight	Slight	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Similar to sodium fluoroacetate (1080).	Yes	No ³	Extreme	None
NORBORMIDE	12	1.0	Good	Fair	Poor	No	Yes	None	Slight	Slight	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Blood vessels constrict, causing failure of organ systems.	No	No	Slight	None
RED SQUILL	500 ²	10.0	Fair	Fair	Poor	No	No	Medium	Strong ⁴	Medium	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Heart paralysis.	No	No	Slight	Acts as own emetic to animals capable of vomiting.
SODIUM FLUOROACETATE (1080)	5—Norway 2—Roof R. 10—Mice	1/2 Oz./Gal. 1 Oz./28 Lbs.	Good	Good	Good	No	No	None	Slight	Slight	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Paralysis of heart and the central nervous system.	Yes	No ⁵	Extreme	NONE. Monocrotin or ethyl alcohol and acetic acid recommended.
STRYCHNINE (Alkaloid)	6	0.6	Fair	Fair	Poor	No	Yes	None	Strong ⁴	Slight	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Convulsions due to superstimulation of nervous system; exhaustion; asphyxia.	No	No	Medium	No emetic after 10 minutes. Charcoal in water and sedative. Keep in dark room.
STRYCHNINE (Sulfate)	8	0.8	Fair	Fair	Poor	No	Yes	None	Strong ⁴	Slight	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Convulsions due to superstimulation of nervous system; exhaustion; asphyxia.	No	No	Medium	No emetic after 10 minutes. Charcoal in water and sedative. Keep in dark room.
VACOR	5—Norway 18—Roof R. 88—Mice	2.0	Good	Good	Good	No	No	None	?	None	No	No	Yes	No	No	Respiratory failure.	No	No ⁷	Medium	Nicotinamide has been shown to be antidotal in lab rats.
ZINC PHOSPHIDE	40	1.0	Good	Good	Good	No	No	Strong	Strong	Fast	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Heart paralysis. Gastrointestinal and liver damage.	No	No	Medium	Good. Antacid before emetic. Cathartic and water. Avoid fatty acid oils (fat milk).

- Effective against Norway Rats only.
- Effective against Norway Rats, Roof Rats, and House Mice.
- Mice only.
- 1. More or less. Successive doses required for 5-10 days or more.
- 2. Norway rats only, on first exposure.

- Slow acting
- Fast acting
- Very fast acting
- 3. Minimum acceptable level; more toxic squills give better results.
- 4. Normally objectionable to rats.
- 5. Can be taken through cuts or breaks in the skin; also danger of inhaling loose powder.
- 6. Emetics used as first aid except as noted; speed is essential; 1 tablespoon of salt in a glass of warm water is usually effective; call a physician immediately.

Courtesy U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
Published in *Control of Domestic Rats & Mice*, U.S. Public Health Service, 1979.



Clandestine Operations Manual For Central America

Travel to Central America — meet interesting people — and teach them how to use the most modern applications of guerrilla warfare against their Communist oppressors! Most Americans are tired of being Mr. Nice Guy and starting with Grenada, are beginning to kick some ass! They are behind the CIA covert activities in Central America and cheer them on with the knowledge that we are finally using some effective methods.

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The ancient Korean fighting art, Tae Kwon Do, with its emphasis on high, powerful kicks, is one of the more popular Asian self-defense systems in the U.S. today.

It is known as a "hard" martial art in which an attacker's force is met with force.

Owing to their common heritage, some similarities in style and movement can be observed between Tae Kwon Do, Chinese Shaolin Temple Boxing, and Okinawan Karate.

The World Tae Kwon Do Association, an organization formed to support, regulate and promote the art, has produced six training videotapes and a demonstration videotape to assist students.

The demonstration tape shows parts of each of the training tapes and provides an overview of what is contained in the training tapes.

The training tapes cover exercises, techniques, self-defense methods, professional and point competition, and forms, or patterns, of movements.

Each of the training tapes is 55 minutes long, except for the forms tape which runs 85 minutes. They contain narration and demonstration by 3-time national point champion and Black Belt Hall of Fame member Keith Vitali, 7th Degree Black Belt Young Seon Seo, and by other distinguished instructors.

Many of the moves and techniques are shown more than once, from various angles and in normal and slow motion, and stop-action.

The exercises videotape follows, step-by-step, through a series of exercises designed to condition students and prepare them for workout. It also offers a second set of exercises for individual workout.

The techniques tape demonstrates most of the basics of Tae Kwon Do, each broken down into increments and explained in detail.

The self-defense tape is designed for use by persons already skilled in Tae Kwon Do, but the instructors say even beginners can benefit from what is shown about defenses to attacks, presented in real-life-like situations.

Viewing of the point competition tape provides students with a means to use the



Young Seon Seo delivers a kick to opponent George Chikas.



Young Seon Seo demonstrates defenses to attacks by George Chikas, left, and John Romero.



Young Seon Seo shows a Tae Kwon Do position.



World Tae Kwon Do demonstration video tape and case offer overview.

World Tae Kwon Do Association demonstration video tape presents segments from six training tapes.



skills they have learned without actually fighting. Speed techniques are emphasized as practice routines are demonstrated.

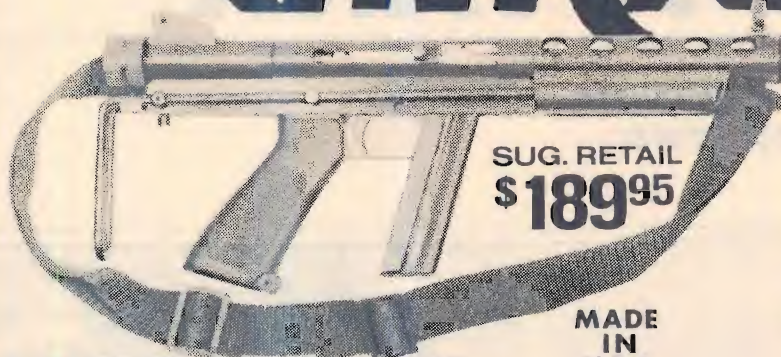
Professional competition as presented on the fifth tape is intended to reorient the student to the professional fighter's training style. Training suggestions are offered and practice routines and combinations are demonstrated.

The forms tape demonstrates and explains patterns of moves useful in both real-life and classroom circumstances.

Explanations of Chunji through Chungjang are given.

The training tapes sell for \$69 each, 2 for \$129, 3 for \$179, 4 for \$229, 5 for \$269 or 6 for \$299. The demonstration tape is \$10. A \$5 shipping and handling charge must be paid for each order, regardless of how many tapes are requested. Write World Tae Kwon Do Association, 4320 Roswell Road, Dept. ASG, Atlanta, GA 30342; phone (800) 323-1717, Operator 823, toll free. ●

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Staff Report

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These collapsible tanks, made in five sizes, are fabricated from a flame-resistant nylon material, with seams that are electrically bonded. The material offers a 380-pound strip pull breaking strength, and a tear strength of 190 pounds. The supplier reports that the tanks withstand mildew, rot, ozone and ultraviolet light checking deterioration, weathering, and damage from chemical pollutants in the atmosphere.

The tanks can be folded and rolled for ease of empty storage, then be placed in the bed of a pickup or stake-body truck of appropriate Gross Vehicle Weight Rating, and filled for road transport. The filler necks of the tanks are PVC plastic.

Sizes of tanks available from Domestic Water Works are: No. FDA73MT, 80 by 73 by 16 inches, with 275 gallon capacity, and priced at \$129; No. FDA98MT, 65 by 98 by 18 inches, 525 gallons, \$390; No. FDA610MT, 6 by 10 by 2 feet, 800 gallons, \$446; No. FDA712MT, 7 by 12 by 2 feet, 1,140 gallons, \$626; and No. FDA714MT, 7 by 14 by 2 feet, 1,340 gallons, \$695. The tanks range in shipping weight from 23 to 64 pounds.

All tanks are fitted with a 1½-inch gate valve on an 8-inch extension.

In addition to the collapsible fabric tanks, Domestic Water-Works deals in redwood and polyvinyl water storage tanks up to 100,000-gallon capacity, 12-volt and hand water pumps, wind-driven pressure water systems, fire fighting equipment, hot water heaters, full-sized propane refrigerators and freezers, and irrigation equipment.

A complete catalog is available for \$1 from Domestic Water-Works, Box 809, Dept. ASG, Cave Junction, OR 97523, phone (503) 592-3615. ●



The 275-gallon Kolaps-A-Tank weighs 17 pounds, and can be rolled for storage.



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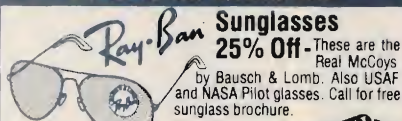
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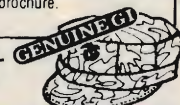
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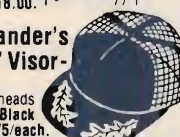
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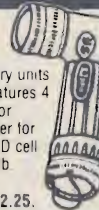
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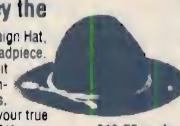
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PRE-SUMMER SALE



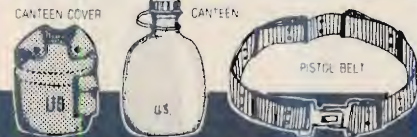
NEW ADDRESS!

Commando Sweater—
This is the famous British Commando Sweater (Woolly Pulley) adopted by the US Military. The natural 100% wool fiber content makes the sweater super warm, the long cut and tight knit ribbed design makes it wind proof. Sleeve and shoulder patches provide protection at abrasion points. **Specify size: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48** \$39.75/each
Choose from:
☐ Olive Drab (OD) Green Crewneck (USMC Approved)
☐ Black V Neck with epaulets and name plate area on breast (US Army Approved)
☐ Black Crewneck (no epaulets or name plate area)
☐ Camouflage

Commando Sweater - Commercially made - patterned after the GI ones, these are commercially made in easy care 100% acrylic. Although they are copies, they are constructed surprisingly true to the all wool ones, complete with sleeve and shoulder patches. **Choose between: Olive Drab (OD) Green or Black. Specify Size: S, M, L, XL** \$21.75/each.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Special Forces Green Beret - Jaunty and daring and classy - like the professional's who wear them. These are official regulation berets of 100% vat dyed wool and meeting all military specs. Made expressly for us by the prime government contractor. Also available: Official headgear for:
☐ Airborne Qualified (Maroon)
☐ Ranger Commandos (Black)
☐ Artillery & Guardian Angels (Red)
☐ Commando Dress (Camouflage)
Sizes—6 7/8 to 7 3/4
(Not sure of head size? Tell us how many inches around your head where you wear your hat. We'll send the right one.) \$13.75/each



Military Goods Catalog—Genuine military clothing, gear and equipment with an emphasis on camouflage. See details on these and many more related items \$1.00/each. Free with order.

Angle Head Flashlite—
GENUINE GI
This is the heavy duty olive drab plastic flashlight issued to all military units. The flashlight is waterproof, non-glare and features 4 different lenses which can be easily installed or removed. It can clip onto the belt or suspender for hands free operation; operates on 2 standard D cell batteries and comes complete with a spare bulb. Brand new, sold in the GI box \$6.50/each; 2 for \$12.25.

We're America's Army & Navy Store!!

Drill Instructor/Smokey the Bear Hat—Formally called the Campaign Hat this is a really fine quality pressed felt headpiece. A hat with character. No one who wears it escapes a personality change. An uncontrollable urge to shout orders or heap abuses, pursue flammers or write traffic tickets. Let your true or wishful self be heard. Sizes: 6-7/8 to 7-3/4 \$19.75/each.
☐ **Genuine Leather Chin Strap** \$2.00/each.
☐ **Acorn Hat Cord** (as shown) \$6.00/each. (Specify color: silver, gold metallic, black/gold, metallic, yellow, red or light blue).

Distress Marker Rescue Strobe Light—
GENUINE GI
This is a high intensity strobe beacon which penetrates rain and fog and is visible for distances up to 15 miles. Standard pilot survival gear. This light is about the size of a pack of cigarettes (1" x 2" x 4 1/2") yet it puts out a dazzling white flash (250,000 lumens) 50 times per minute for up to 9 hours. The unit is waterproof and shockproof. Sold complete with case and 1 battery \$39.50/each.
☐ Replacement Batteries for Strobe Light \$10.75/each



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10% OFF
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To get sale price you MUST mention this issue of American Survival Guide.

Micro Precision 8x21 Binocular—
fits in the palm of your hand!!
It looks like a toy - but ours is a state of the art, micro binocular with sterling optical quality. Manufactured by Brunton (the firm that has supplied the precision M2 compass to the US military since the 1940's) our binocular weighs less than 9 ounces and measures a mere 2 3/4" x 4". Yet its 8 power magnification provides the clarity and detail found in much larger (and more expensive) binoculars. Its relatively narrow field allows the user to locate targets almost immediately.

Rubber coated armour makes the binocular water repellent and shockproof. Each binocular comes complete with a carrying case which can be worn on the belt and is warranted for 1 year by Brunton.

Kaufman's is certain you'll be both pleased and amazed at the quality and effectiveness of this binocular. If you're not completely satisfied return it to us for a full refund plus a \$5.00 credit which may be applied towards any of our merchandise at any time.

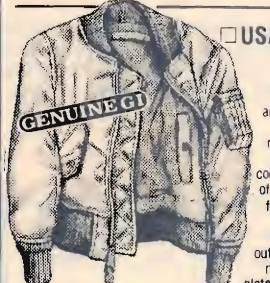
Choose: Camouflage rubber armoured or Black rubber armoured.
List price \$120.00/each.
Kaufman's price \$99.95/each.

THE CAMOUFLAGE TIE
The Basic Wardrobe Accoutrement for Every Well Dressed Merc. Donchathink?
Two great things about our ties:
First, they're made especially for us in the USA from genuine GI woodland camo material of 50% cotton/50% nylon so they can be washed or dry cleaned.
Second, they go equally well with anything in your wardrobe, from your most formal blue pin stripe suit to your Hawaiian shirt with the funny looking fishes on it.
Choose from: Pointed and (traditional and conservative) or Straight End (punk and iconoclastic) \$9.95/each; 2 for \$18.95.

M-65 Field Jackets—
This is the basic issue combat jacket. Designed for complete utility, these water-repellent and windproof jackets feature: 4 super large utility pockets; gusseted back for complete mobility and freedom of movement; epaulets; adjustable cuffs and collar; drawstring waistband; hidden hood in collar. Brand new, of course. Sizes are XS, S, M, L, XL. Long lengths are available in Olive Drab (OD) Green and Camouflage, Woodland Pattern only. If you're unsure of your size, tell us your chest measurement when ordering. XS-L \$55.00/each; XL & all long lengths \$60.50/each; XL/long \$65.00/each.
Choose from: ☐ Olive Drab (OD) Green ☐ Camouflage, Woodland Pattern (latest GI issue to Army) ☐ Desert Tan - (NATO issue), ☐ Camouflage, Tiger Stripe - (Commercially made in a US mill to military specs).

M-65 liner - Genuine GI - designed to quickly and easily button into M 65 Jacket to provide complete warmth by sealing in the body heat. Brand New XS, S, M, L \$19.00/each; XL \$20.50/each

Military Style Watch—
Kaufman's is pleased to offer a full faced timepiece which is affordable, reliable and styled exactly like the military workhorse that it was modeled after.
This wristwatch is quality made by Timex. It features: non-glare metal housing and black face, 24 hour military-time dial; luminescent hands and markers for easy reading at night; water repellant to depths of up to 80 feet; and a sweep, hack styled second hand.
The watch comes complete with a water-proof olive drab (OD) green nylon wrist strap and a full 1 year warranty by Timex.
Brand new \$17.95/each



USAF Flight Jacket—

These flight jackets are issued to military fliers and are designated Type MA1 for Intermediate Cold. (This means that it is the medium weight jacket, designed for comfort in a temperature zone of about 20° to 55°F). Look for the military designation, sizes and stock numbers inside the left pocket. The outer shell and lining are 100% nylon making the jacket completely wind and waterproof. The interlining is 100% polyester fibrill for

the highest degree of warmth per ounce. This jacket is reversible, outside in your choice of either sage green or blue and the inside is survival orange. It features: two hip pockets outside as well as inside, sewn pen and pencil holders plus zippered easy access storage pocket in the left sleeve. This a snappy, convenient, warm, fully functional jacket and it happens to be the latest fashion trend.
Specify: Sage Green or Blue Shell - Regular Length Only.
Sizes: XS, S, M, L \$46.75/each; XL \$51.50/each

Brand New!! Flight Jackets in Black and Woodland Camouflage - Exact in every detail to the genuine GI MA1 jackets above, manufactured by the same government contractor, to military specs; with reversible orange linings. The Black nylon shelled jackets feature a gold zipper and the Woodland Camo jackets are made from genuine GI cloth of 50% cotton/50% nylon.
Specify: Black or Woodland Camo Shell.
Sizes: XS, S, M, L \$48.75/each; XL \$53.50/each

US Navy Cold Weather Deck Jackets—

Type A2—These jackets feature windproof cuff and hip closures plus a full zipper front with button overclosure. The Olive Drab (OD) green shell is 50% cotton/50% nylon. This blend allows the jacket to be water-repellent (not waterproof) while at the same time it has the softness of the natural fibre. It is lined with double face pile in both the body and sleeves. It sports two hip pockets and a breast pocket with snap closure. The Deck Jacket is cut slightly below the waist so large or tall persons will find it quite comfortable.

XS, S, M, L \$47.75/each; XL \$50.75/each; XXL \$62.75/each.
Specify Olive Drab (OD) Green or Woodland Camo Shell.

USAF Heavyweight Flight Jacket—Type M2B
This is the warmest flight jacket that the military issues. It features full pile hood which drapes over the shoulders when not needed. This is the cold weather version of the Intermediate Weight Flight Jacket - Type MA1 featured elsewhere in this ad. This jacket is designed for subfreezing temperatures. Waterproof and Windproof.
S, M, L \$87.75/each; XL \$95.75

Ranger Combat Cap—Woodland Camouflage—latest Army issue.
This wintercap cap features lined flaps which can fold out to keep your ears warm and tuck into the hat when the weather's balmy. Sizes run small. Also available in Olive Drab (OD) Green.
Specify: Olive Drab (OD) Green or Woodland Camo Shell.
Sizes: 7, 7-1/4, 7-1/2, 7-3/4 \$9.00/each.

Watch Cap, 100% Wool—
This is the genuine GI, tightly knit, and all-wool watch cap. Used by commandos and troops alike, this tightly knit cap fits snug on any size head for maximum warmth on extended cold weather operations. Sides can roll down to protect ears. Choose between dark blue/black (Navy Seal or Marine Recon teams) or OD (olive drab; army) \$6.00/each.

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ORDER TOLL FREE 1-800-545-0933 — CALL MON-SAT; 9:00 — 7:00 (Mountain Time)

5 Watts:

The THIN FILM MODULE

New technology for more energy from the sun . . .

Staff Report

The Solar Genesis thin film module is 1 foot square, and delivers 5 watts of peak power from silicon alloy deposited as a film directly on glass.

A NEW TYPE OF solar electric module with thin film technology has been introduced by ARCO Solar, Inc., for commercial and consumer uses.

The 5-watt Genesis Solar Electric Module uses a micro-thin layer of silicon alloy deposited directly on glass to generate electricity from sunlight.

Applications for these modules, which can be wired together to increase current and voltage, include battery maintenance on cars, recreational vehicles and boats. They can also produce enough power to run telemetry stations, security equipment and some home lighting.

The Genesis module is 13.7 inches long, 13.1 inches wide and 0.5 inches thick. It weighs 3 pounds and is equipped with a 5-foot cable. The module can produce 14.5 volts and 0.35 amps at maximum power.

Conventional photovoltaic or solar electric technology consists of individual single crystal silicon cells wired together in a module.

Until now, thin film technology has been limited primarily to small, low-efficiency power requirements, such as calculators and watches.

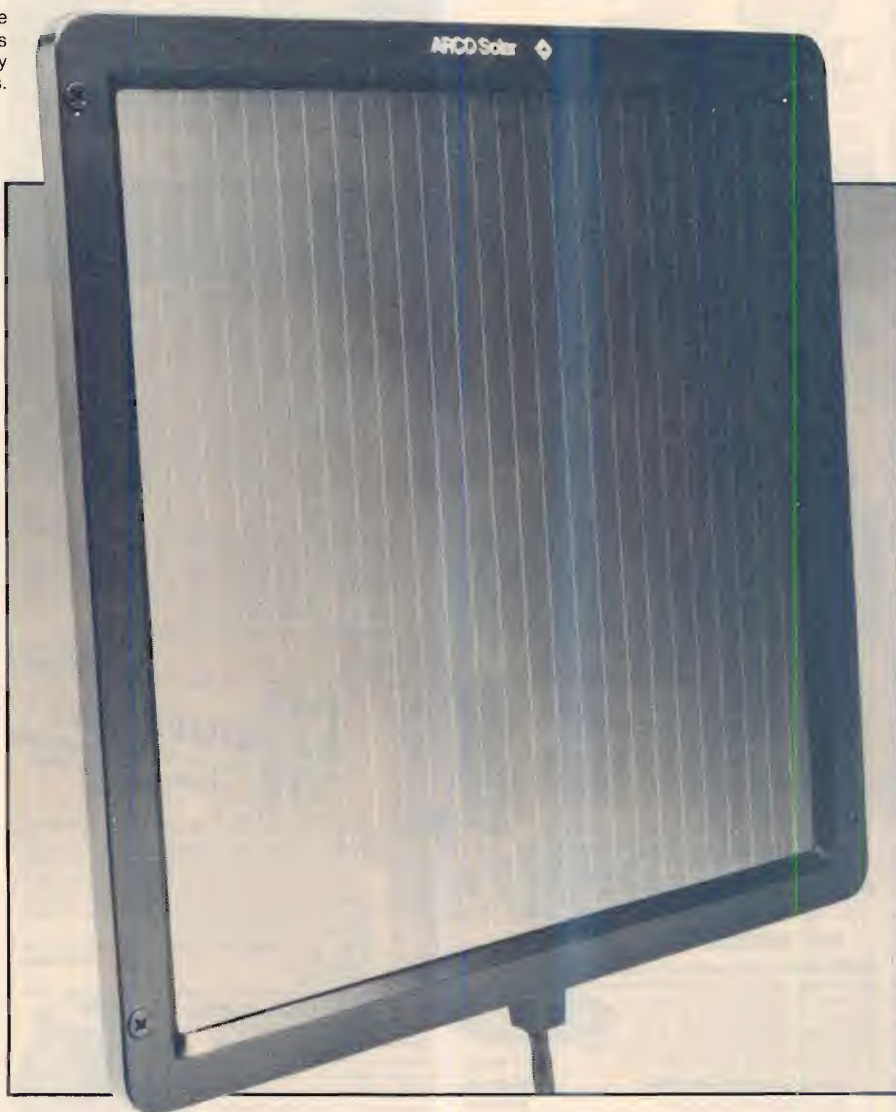
ARCO Solar claims to be the first to manufacture for commercial uses a 1-foot square, 5-watt, thin film module.

The Genesis module carries a 1-year limited warranty and will be available through ARCO Solar distributors.

"In the months ahead, we plan to introduce several new products, using both the new thin film silicon and conventional technologies," said Robert Kauffman, ARCO Solar's senior vice president of marketing.

The Genesis module is made to fit well into ARCO Solar's commercial line and features many of the same qualities, including silent and maintenance-free operation because there are no moving parts.

The thin film technology also offers the



advantages of solid state cell circuitry for reliability and efficient operation in low or diffused light.

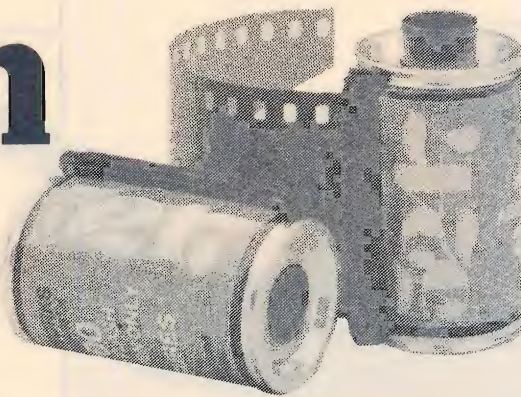
Sunlight reaching the module is instantly converted into direct current. This charges storage batteries which can power lights or appliances.

On an average day with 5 hours of "peak" sunlight, a single Genesis module will generate about 2 ampere/hours of

electric current. Enough power to illuminate a 7-watt fluorescent lamp for 3½ hours, a 12-inch black and white television set for 1½ hours, a Citizens' Band radio for 4 hours or a stereo radio for 4 hours. Energy not used may be stored in NiCad or lead/acid batteries.

For additional information contact ARCO Solar, Inc., P.O. Box 2105, Chatsworth, CA 91311; phone (800) 272-6765. ●

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Kodak MP film . . . Eastman Kodak's professional color motion picture (MP) film adapted for still use in your 35mm camera by Seattle FilmWorks. With micro-fine grain and rich color saturation, its quality meets the exacting standards of Hollywood filmmakers. And with wide exposure latitude, you don't have to be a pro to get great everyday shots or capture special effects.

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"there has long been the dream of one film that could produce everything. . . . Such a film is here now in the form of 5247. . ."

—MODERN PHOTOGRAPHY

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4513



Heritage:

COONAN ".357 AUTO

Lean and spare, beautiful in its way, and deadly accurate . . .

Staff Evaluation

PHOTOS BY DAVE EPPERSON AND JIM BENSON

◀ Staff shooter finds the Coonan .357 is easy to control during rapid-fire exercises.

A COONAN COULD be on display with Colt's firearms of the past, perhaps as one of John Moses Browning's prototypes, or maybe as the Model 1900 chambered for .38 caliber. Certainly the Coonan semi-automatic pistol has the lean, spare look of those Colt's/Browning originals from so long ago. If there is beauty to be seen in weapons, here it lies.

In this case, form follows function: the Coonan is accurate; no, more than accurate, precise. With practice, this handgun can be fired as a surgeon would employ a scalpel.

Ordnance tests of the Colt Model 1900 resulted in the military trial board's view that the pistol was: "Very simple construction . . . easy to operate . . . not liable to get out of order . . . capable of a very high rate of fire . . . (could) be conveniently loaded with either hand . . . (offered) high initial velocity and flat trajectory . . . (and was) more accurate than a revolver . . ." This test report from times long past could well fit the Coonan today.

High Old Tech—The Coonan's fit and finish are far superior to those found in

mass-produced firearms from some American manufacturers, and in many "economy" products from overseas. Slide, barrel bushing, link and groove, hammer and safety lever, and frame are *tight*. If something these days can be said to be immaculate, it is the machining that goes into the Coonan. In this respect, the manufacturer recommends that lithium grease be used on all of the pistol's moving parts for the first 500 rounds fired, until things lap-in and loosen-up. The all-stainless-steel pistol's slide and frame sides are polished to a mirror finish. The top and bottom of the slide and frame are given a matte finish, as are the grip safety lock lever, and front and rear of the grip frame. Front and rear sights are flat black. Grips are of oiled walnut, rich looking, but not shiny. They are not checkered, which is a boon to tender-handed shooters.

Browning's Way—The Coonan's action functions as do generations of Colt semi-automatic pistols, the first in 1898, then in millions of Colt's handguns made for World Wars I and II, and lately in some numbers of handguns from small factories across the U.S. The Coonan is a scion of a very large family, all the progeny of J.M. Browning, the quiet, studious wizard of firearms design.

The Coonan .357 Magnum magazine accepts 7 rounds only. Loading is eased and simplified by insertion of a loading pin through a hole in the magazine follower. The instructions supplied with the Coonan directed the shooter to bottom out the follower with the pin, but *American Survival Guide* staff people found less difficulty in compressing the spring with the loading

COONAN .357 MAGNUM: TECH SPECS

Caliber	.357 Magnum
Action	semi-automatic, link-and-groove lockup
Capacity, rounds	7
Lengths:	
Barrel, inches	5.0
Overall, inches	8.3
Width, inches	1.3
Height, inches	5.6
Weights:	
Empty, with magazine, pounds	2.6
Loaded, pounds	3.0
Sights:	
Front	fixed blade
Rear	square notch, drift adjustable, windage only
Sight radius, inches	7.4
Finish	matte/polished stainless steel
Grips	oiled walnut
Muzzle velocity, nominal, fps	1,235
Muzzle energy, nominal, ft-lb	535
Prices, suggested retail:	
Coonan .357 pistol	\$595
Conversion kit, 38 Special	\$40
Manufacturer	Coonan Arms, Inc. 830 Hampden Ave. St. Paul, MN 55114 Phone: (612) 646-6672

pin progressively, as each round was fed into the magazine. With the follower at the bottom of the box, the long .357 Magnum cartridges tended to tumble and misalign themselves.

For loading a magazine, the Coonan's slide must be drawn rearward, and held by the slide stop. The topped-up 7-round magazine is slid home and latched, and the slide stop is depressed to chamber the top round of the 7 from the magazine as it is driven forward by the decompressing recoil spring.

One round cannot be chambered and the action closed before loading the 7-round magazine, as the bolt portion of the slide interferes with full seating and latching of the magazine.

Seven is all the shooter gets, but that's one round more than .357 Magnum revolver shooters—and that one might be the critical round in a firefight.

With the round chambered, the Coonan is ready to fire, its link-articulated barrel's single locking lug cammed upward into the slide's single locking groove.

If the safety has been thumbed upward to engage the notch in the slide, it must be thumbed downward, and, likewise, the grip safety must be depressed by the shooter's palm to allow the hammer to fall.

A finger squeeze of energy on the trigger is transferred through a stirrup trigger bar, causing the sear to pivot, and thus disengaging it from the cocked hammer. The Coonan's Colt Commander rounded-style hammer is driven forward by the flexed sear spring, and the hammer face makes contact with the rear of the through-bolt firing pin.

The nose of the firing pin is thus driven into the cartridge primer, igniting the powder in the case.

As recoil starts the lug-joined barrel and slide rearward, the link swings forward, pulling the barrel downward, disengaging it from the locking groove in the slide, and freeing the slide to continue fully rearward.

The spent cartridge case, in the firm grip of the extractor is drawn rearward with the slide/bolt until it makes contact with the ejector at the left rear of the frame, just above the rear of the magazine well.

As the slide travels to the rear, it compresses the recoil spring, and cocks the hammer against the sear once more, then stops, arrested by metal-to-metal contact between the slide, at the barrel bushing housing, and the frame, at the forward ends of the frame rails.

Now the slide, driven by released pressure of the recoil spring, catches the top round from the magazine, and drives it forward into the chamber. The extractor pivots outward, then inward, as its pawl is forced over the rim of the .357 Magnum casing. The Coonan is ready to shoot again—six more times.

Some Comparisons—At first glance, the Coonan is a look-alike for a Colt .45. The ASG staff made some horseback comparisons between the Coonan and a Colt Mk. IV/Series 70. Though the Coonan *seems* smaller than the Colt, it is actually larger, not much, but larger.

For example, the Coonan's slide is 0.344 inch longer than the Colt's. Top to bottom, the Coonan is 0.500 inch taller than the Colt. The Coonan's full slide travel is 2.375 inches, whereas the Colt's is only 2.188 inches, a difference of 0.187 inches. The Colt's standard ejection port is 1.375 inches long, and the Coonan's port is 1.625 inches in length, a full quarter-inch longer. All of these dimensional variations add up to one consideration, the longer-than-.45-ACP .357 cartridge. The .45 is about 1.250 inches long, give or take a couple of thou. The .357 Magnum is 1.500 inches long. There's that quarter-inch again.

The .357 Magnum cartridge is rimmed, whereas the .45 ACP round is rimless, and grooved around its circumference, rim or



The Coonan .357 failed to extract three empty cases, but a shot of Break Free remedied the problem.



The rimmed .357 Magnum cartridges fan out toward the rear as they are loaded in the magazine. A pin is used to draw the magazine follower downward, thus easing loading.



Field stripping starts with removal of the magazine—a push-button operation.



The barrel bushing is turned to release the plug, and free the recoil spring.



The disassembly notch is aligned, and the link-pin/slide-stop is withdrawn to the left.

COONAN .357 AUTO

groove, the purpose is the same: to engage the extractor for the extraction and ejection functions of the semi-automatic cycle. When loaded in a magazine, the .45 cartridges are more or less parallel, but .357s in a magazine, because of their rims, fan out at the rear, the lowermost one in the mag pointing at a rather acute upward angle, while the topmost cartridge is more or less level. This seems strange to .45 ACP shooters, but appears to have no effect on the Coonan's ability to feed and chamber a round each time the pistol is cycled.

There are some visual differences in comparative gingerbread, the treatment of non-functional parts. The Colt's trigger guard is rounded where the Coonan's is squared off; the Colt's grip frame carries a fluted boss on its rear member; and the barrel bushing housing at the front of the slide is contoured on the Colt, but smooth, flat and straight on the Coonan.

Field Stripping—The Coonan takes down in the same manner, but much more easily than the Colt, probably by reason of the factory's close attention to finish machining. Things just fit better, tighter, with no discernible slop.

'Home defense and security against unwanted intruders.'

The pushbutton magazine release is right there, as on the Colt, and a press drops the magazine. The barrel bushing is turned to the right (counterclockwise, as viewed from the rear). The plug and spring are withdrawn, and the bushing is turned to the left (as seen from the rear) so that its bottom lug can clear the frame channel for removal.

The slide is pushed rearward until the disassembly notch on the left side of the slide is aligned with the rear end of the slide catch. Here the link-pin/slide-stop can be withdrawn to the left, freeing the slide from the barrel. The slide can now be drawn forward off the frame, the recoil spring plunger can be removed, and the barrel withdrawn forward from the slide. This is sufficient for cleaning. Other maintenance tasks and repair require use of gunsmith's drift punches to separate components.

Firepower—This magazine's staff members looked forward for weeks to shooting the Coonan .357 Magnum. Other business, rain, holidays and vacations interfered. Finally, the day came, bright, sunny and just right for a relaxed day of finding

out what a particular firearm can do.

Those who followed Coonan instructions to the letter experienced no difficulty whatsoever in loading magazines and inserting them in the pistol's magazine well. Those who failed to read and heed were stymied until the scholarly staffers showed them the error of their ways: the Coonan can load only 7 rounds through an open action, slide held to the rear with the slide stop, remember?

The Coonan surprised everybody on the staff. The only other .357 caliber semi-automatic pistol in the staff's experience had been the Israeli Desert Eagle, the gas-operated, rotating-bolt handgun of con-

siderable heft and size, a huge pussycat. Some staffers anticipated sharp recoil from the lighter blowback Coonan, while others presumed the Coonan would display undue muzzle-flip. The pistol did neither.

All staff shooters were able to hold point of aim during rapid fire, a circumstance not found in some other semi-automatic handguns. Perceived recoil was moderate, much less felt than a .45 Colt, say, and muzzle rise was minimal. In rapid fire, all staff shooters were able to maintain a clear sight picture and recover the target very quickly, again something not possible with many semi-auto handguns.

At 7 yards, working against half-scale



The slide is drawn forward off the frame rails, after link pin is withdrawn. And here's where one can take a look at the Coonan's precision machining, and examine the tight fit. Rear sight is drift-adjustable.



Here the slide is free of the lower frame, and the plunger tube is exposed, along with the barrel link. The barrel bushing, top center, is of the plain-type, rather than the collet-type bushing, as in current Colts.



The magazines, upper left, and the spring shown below the slide and above the frame, are for the purpose of converting the .357 Magnum Coonan to a shooter of .38 Special ammo.

upper body silhouettes, the Coonan was deadly accurate—six slabs of metal down for every six rounds fired. All ASG people were satisfied that the Coonan is more than sufficiently controllable for self-defensive rapid-fire shooting, no question.

In the beginning, three times during the first 100 rounds fired, the Coonan failed to extract fired cases. The pistol's action chambered every round all right, but on these three occasions sent the slide rearward, leaving the fired brass about half an inch out of the chamber.

This could have been a function of a tight chamber, the Remington high-velocity 158-grain semi-jacketed hollowpoints used for the test, or binding of the extractor—maybe all three factors contributing to the hangup. At any rate, the Coonan was given a shower of Break Free in the extractor/chamber/ejector/port area, and from then on the malfunction failed to repeat itself.

Evaluation—The Coonan people state that this weapon was built primarily for sportsmen. From the survivalist's viewpoint, this firearm could prove useful to a survivalist who wished to stick to a single

'Perceived recoil moderate, muzzle rise minimal.'

caliber for urban or rural self-defense and foraging. A family or group who own a couple of .357 Magnum revolvers and/or a carbine or over/under combination chambered for 20 gauge and .357 Magnum might use the Coonan as the primary weapon of self-defense.

For the one-gun family, the Coonan could provide home defense and security against unwanted intruders. A .357 Magnum semi-auto pistol with seven loaded is more than a nightstand decoration.

What the Coonan offers more than sport, or as an expensive curiosity, is pure, unadulterated gunmaking craftsmanship and exquisite machine work, along with shooting control with mild recoil, accuracy, durability and reliability. Its limitation for the survivalist may be in its magazine capacity, if firepower is the criterion by which the individual chooses survival weapons.

For those who take pleasure in refined design and near perfect execution of the design, the Coonan is one to see. This 1980s extension of John Moses Browning's design from the 1890s no doubt would have pleased the master himself. ●

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PALM SIZED
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6" closed, 16" open, 10 oz.

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Which Is Best?:

ASIAN MARTIAL ARTS

There is no 'one-size-fits-all' fighting style, so survivalists should seek what best suits their needs . . .

By Robert S. McKay

(Robert S. McKay is a martial arts and self-defense instructor. This is the first of several articles by McKay to be presented in American Survival Guide. These articles will acquaint readers with the vast variations in martial arts styles, martial arts weaponry, and finally, karate, as survivalist skills. That martial arts teach both mental and physical conditioning for pur-

poses of successful combat is the reason for publication of these articles.—The Editors.)

FOR THE MODERN survivalist interested in self-defense training, attempting to separate mythical images and actual attributes of Asian fighting systems

can become an exercise in frustration. There are at least 400 known "styles" of Chinese Kung fu alone, along with several dozens types of Okinawan and Japanese Karate. From Korea, come several versions of the indigenous art, Tae Kwon Do, along with Tang Soo Do, Hapkido, and the ancient warrior art of Hwarang do. In Indonesia, there are reputedly 150 versions of Pentjak silat, a fighting art peculiar to those islands. In addition, the past 100 years has seen the introduction of sport karate and judo, along with the development of the strictly spiritual disciplines of Aikido and Shorinji Kempo. Add to these the numerous "hybrid" styles created since the introduction of Asian arts in the West, and the list of styles becomes virtually endless.

Because most of the history and philosophy of Asian martial arts systems have been passed down by word of mouth from generation to generation, it is not so simple for the westerner to research the subject to better determine which style or school fits his particular needs. Many schools, particularly those in China, were based on secrecy, and it was not until the past few decades that many Kung fu schools opened their doors to the "Barbarians" of

ASIAN MARTIAL ARTS: SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES

ASIA

Traditional martial arts continue to be practiced throughout Asia. However, modern adaptations of the older systems appear to be gaining in popularity. Asians also favor Western-style sports-fighting competition, such as boxing and wrestling. Kick-boxing is a mixture of Eastern and Western systems.

REGIONAL/NATIONAL VARIATIONS

Burma

Bando
Banshei
Kick-boxing

China (People's Republic, Republic of, and Hong Kong)

Wu shu (Kung fu)
Shaolin Temple Boxing (Northern)
Shaolin Temple Boxing (Southern)
Hsing-i
Pa-kua
T'ai-chi ch'uan

India

Stick-and-dagger
Kalaripayit

Indonesia

Pentjak silat
Indigenous weapons systems

Japan

Aikido
Shorinji kempo
Sumo
Judo

Nin-jutsu

So-jutsu
Kendo
Kyu-do
Naginata-do
Iai-do
Jukendo

Kampuchea

Various weapons systems
Various boxing systems

Korea (South and North)

Hwarang do
Tae Kwon Do
Tang Soo Do

Laos

Various weapons systems
Various boxing systems

Malaysia

Bersilat

Philippines

Eskrima
Empty-hands techniques

Ryukyu

Kubudo
Okinawan Karate (variant)

Thailand

Thai boxing
Krabi Krabong

Vietnam

Various weapons systems
Various boxing systems



the West. Written histories of the styles and their origins are few, and those that do exist are often full of mythology and contradiction.

Survival Arts—Contrary to popular opinion, just “taking some Karate” may not fulfill the personal needs which drive the modern survivalist to consider martial arts to begin with. Each brings a different background, temperament, and physiology into a dojo or kwoon (training hall), along with differing expectations. Some of us wish to learn no-nonsense street defense. It would be pointless, therefore, to enroll in a Chinese Wu shu school which emphasizes acrobatics and beauty of form. Others may be more interested in the spiritual aspects of the martial arts. Thus taking an American “hybrid” system devoted to sport competition essentially would be a waste of time. Physical limitations also must be considered: if you have a bad leg, considering Tae Kwon Do would be foolish, because this system is composed of almost 80 percent kicking technique. A bad back would rule out Judo or Ju jitsu, and perhaps even Aikido, because of the numerous falling and throwing methods these styles emphasize.

If a “one-size-fits-all” method were extant today, the Asians would not have bothered to develop the almost 1,000 styles currently documented. Each style or system has its own concepts, goals, advantages, and disadvantages, and discovering what these are requires a bit of research. Even if you have decided on Kung fu over Karate for some reason, there are still numerous differences from one style of Kung fu to another. And, when you turn to the Yellow Pages, you are further confused by ads from schools which claim to teach “Karate, Tae Kwon Do, Kung fu, Hapkido and Yoga,” as if these were all the same thing or hardly different from one another. Such schools often claim to also teach self-defense, confidence building, breaking techniques (boards and bricks), tournament sparring, children’s self-defense, and meditation. If one believed such commercial ads, then Karate and Kung fu schools would be like martial art department stores, but, alas, such ads are usually intended to just get you in the door with these one-size-fits-all claims.

Certainly there are astute martial arts instructors in this country who can be frank and objective with a potential student about the goals and applications of the system he teaches. But, for the most part, instructors like to believe that their particular system is the *best*, no matter what *you*, the student, view your foremost needs to be. Much of this attitude evolves from the Neo-Confucian philosophy which permeates many of the Asian fighting arts: to be loyal to one’s Master or teacher, and to defend the integrity of one’s style in the face of criticism. Some black belts find themselves owing a sort of “allegiance” to their system, much akin to loyalty within a political party, or military unit. Even when the party’s candidate, or company’s lieutenant isn’t qualified for the job, they support him anyway.

Just because an instructor is a high-ranking black belt does not mean that the information he gives you is beyond reproach or contention. He will obviously have *some* vested interest in promoting his own style, not necessarily in the commercial sense, and will attempt to portray his art in the best possible light. This does not mean that he will lie to you. The advice he gives may be just plain wrong for you. Street-oriented combat training is a good case in point: just about any black belt you’ll talk with is convinced that his particular system is effective in self-defense situations, even though it was originally designed for spiritual development, sport competition, or gymnastic performance. It is an unconscious bias that many instructors inadvertently pass down to their students, thereby perpetuating the sometimes-petty bickering that goes on between styles and instructors from different systems. Asking any martial arts instructor whether or not his system will “work” in an



Horse Riding stance, with fists in “chamber,” prepared for delivery, is found in many Kung fu styles.



Reverse or corkscrew punches are the most commonly used blow in the Asian martial arts.



The reverse punch is withdrawn, re-chambering the non-punching arm, which adds power to the blow to be delivered.



Here the author demonstrates the crane’s beak, in which fingertips form a hook to block or parry, or be used in thrusts, particularly to an adversary’s eyes.



ASIAN MARTIAL ARTS



The cat or white snake stance prepares the way for a kick with the front leg.



The hanging horse prepares the practitioner to deliver a kick.



A typical "on-guard" stance from the Northern Shaolin hard style is wide, with hips low to stabilize "chi" in the lower abdomen. Right arm extends to parry or grasp. The left is kept back, near the face, for defense.

actual attack situation is somewhat like asking a used car dealer whether or not he sells "good cars." Of course he does. They're *his*, aren't they?

The Path—Unless you have some background in Western fighting arts or are somewhat familiar with Asian cultures, it can be very difficult to evaluate a given fighting system or school without first having studied within it. It can, however, be done. Many people bounce around for years as "dojo bums," moving from style to style before finding the "right" one by the laborious process of trial and error. This author, as an example, wallowed for over 8 years in a variety of systems before learning enough about the martial arts to distinguish the flim from the flam. Most people, however, cannot spend 8 to 15 years learning the "hard way," and who can blame them?

Regardless of what motivates you to wish to learn an Asian martial art, it behooves you to gain a little background information about the major systems being taught at the present time, so that you will have at least some criteria for determining what sort of style or school to seek.

Kung fu History—While there remains a great deal of speculation over the historical "origins" of systematic fighting arts, there is little doubt that they reached their highest level of sophistication in China, and that the influence of Chinese "Kung fu" spread throughout the rest of Asia. In Okinawa, Indonesia, and Korea, numerous Chinese influences were incorporated into methods indigenous to the area, eventually becoming separate styles in their own right.

There is no clear evidence to determine whether systematic fighting arts like Kung fu were "invented" by the Chinese per se, or imported into China from India or elsewhere. The Indians do practice a martial art called "Kalaripayit" ("battlefield training" in Tamil), which may very well have traveled with the merchant caravans into China during the Warring States Period. Some also contend that the Greek art, "Pankration" ("all powers") was brought into India and Persia by Alexander the Great in the 4th Century B.C., and that it formed the foundation of Kalaripayit and Kung-fu. But regardless of where it came from originally, it was the Chinese who provided hand-to-hand combat with its "Golden Age."

To better understand the Chinese mind as it applies to the fighting arts, a brief word about Chinese philosophy is in order. Clearly such a subject cannot be reviewed in any real detail, but there is sufficient written material available on Eastern thought these days for the interested individual to study.

It is possible to view the three major philosophies of China before 1949 as a sort

of ascending ladder that bridges the gamut from the ethical to the metaphysical.

Confucianism—This has always been, and probably continues to be, the most influential school of thought in China. It is in essence a moral, ethical philosophy, concerned not with spiritual liberation, but with maintaining an orderly society through the medium of good conduct, practical wisdom, and proper social relationships. The founder of this school of thought, Confucius (551-479 B.C.) was more concerned with maintaining order and harmony in Chinese society than in speculating about the source of the universe or the origins of human nature. Righteousness, propriety, and especially reverence for one's parents and ancestors are characteristics of Confucianism that can be found in the decorum observed at many martial art schools across Asia. Chinese thought, like its Kung fu, eventually spread throughout the Asian Continent, and to Japan, Korea, Indochina, and Indonesia. The gist of the original Confucian philosophy can be found in his *Analects* and his version of the ancient classic of divination, the *I Ching*, or *Book of Changes*.

Taoism—China's second major philosophy, Taoism is best exemplified by Lao-tzu, its alleged founder (604-531 B.C.?) who may have been a contemporary of Confucius. His only known work, *The Tao Te Ching*, serves as the major text of this philosophy/religion, along with the *Writings of Chuang Tzu*, who may well have been a disciple of Lao-tzu. Broadly speaking, the essence of this philosophy is the "Tao," which is the source of all things and which cannot be described. It is not a deity in the western sense. It may be likened more to a Universal Principle, or "Big Bang," if you wish. Lao-tzu referred to it merely as "The Way," because the profundity of it defies explanation.

Within the total unity of the Tao itself there are two opposing forces at work: the Yin (male) and the Yang (female), which are most often represented in a circular black-and-white symbol. All things and actions are the result of the interaction between these opposing though complementary forces, which derive their source from the nameless Tao. The Taoist, therefore, strives for moderation in all pursuits, because the relative balance between the Yin and Yang provides the wise man with a harmonious relationship to nature. The active "energy" of the Tao is called "chi," and it is through the dynamic transformations of the "chi" that all dualities (light and dark, hard and soft, near and far) come into existence and form the world.

Taoism is essentially intuitive in nature. One does not reach an understanding of it directly, especially through words. As Lao-tzu puts it:

"The Tao which can be named is not the enduring the unchanging Tao. The name that can be named is not the enduring and unchanging name."

"Conceived of as having no name, it is the Originator of heaven and earth; conceived of as having a name, it is the Mother of all things."

It might be said, then, that the Taoist strives to gain an intuitive understanding of the law of the Tao, or nature, so that he can then use these laws to govern his own life and thereby attain harmony. To do this both men and women often become recluses or monks and nuns, taking residence in the mountains away from society. Because they were often preyed upon by bandits while living in such a way, some spent their time developing fighting systems based upon the tenets of Taoism. These are referred to as "soft" or "internal" styles of Kung fu, based not upon power or strength, but upon the harnessing and utilization of "chi," which the Taoist views as the very essence of the life force within all beings.

Buddhism—The last of the three major religions to gain a foothold in China, and it is with Buddhism that Kung fu has perhaps its strongest link. It is alleged that during the 5th Century A.D., a monk named Bodhidharma came from India to China and took up residence in a place called the Shaolin Monastery (Sil Lum in Cantonese), where he began teaching the monks his Buddhist meditation methods. The monks, unused to sitting in meditation for so many hours, began to fall asleep during practices, so Bodhidharma required them to perform certain exercises to strengthen their bodies for such ordeals. Eventually these exercises were converted into fighting methods by the Shaolin monks, who were often victimized by bandits during pilgrimages and persecuted for their beliefs by many of the intolerant Confucianist and Taoist sects. In this way, whether factually substantiated or not, the introduction of Buddhism into China is directly related to the origins of Shaolin Temple Boxing and all the styles that evolved from it. Because all the monastery records burned in a 1928 fire, the true origins of Shaolin Kung fu will never be known.

Eventually, the ever-practical Chinese merged the Buddhist teachings of Bodhidharma into their own Taoist philosophy, creating a unique philosophical system called Cha'n Buddhism. And by the 1600s, many of the strict Confucianists had adopted many of the spiritual tenets of Buddhism and Taoism, thereby creating what is now called Neo-Confucianism. Chinese philosophy and martial arts have always been in a process of synthesis.

(Continued on page 64)



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Staff Evaluation

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Testing was with a .38 Special/.357 Magnum cartridge adapter for a 12 gauge shotgun. A slide-action shotgun was used with handloaded full-charge wadcutters.

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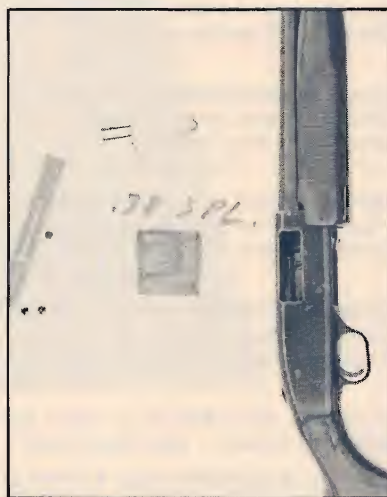
Accuracy suffered somewhat, too. At 25 yards, group size was 13 inches. However, there was no lack of striking power from the adapter-fired bullets, as the exploding water jug in the photo shows.

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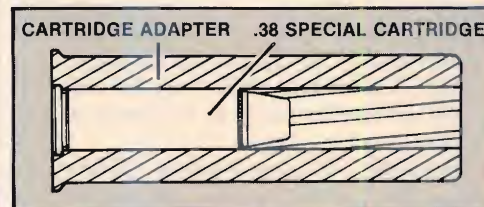
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Target shows fair accuracy with .38s, even lacking sights.



This photo shows the shotgun, cartridge adapter and a .38 Special wadcutter.



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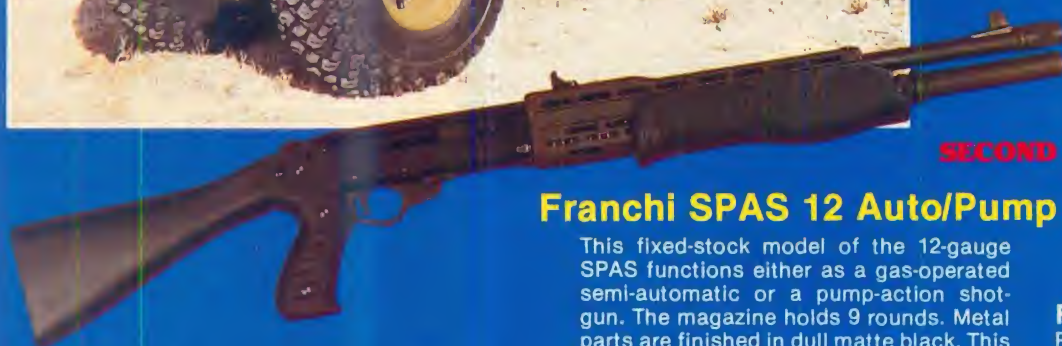
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Assault Systems

869 Horan Drive
St. Louis, MO 63026
Telephone: (800) 325-3049



ELEVENTH PRIZE:

Flight Bag

This black Cordura nylon bag can be used for personal gear or hand weapons. It carries a retail value of \$45, and is presented as a contest prize by:

Assault Systems

869 Horan Drive
St. Louis, MO 63026
Telephone: (800) 325-3049



FOURTEENTH PRIZE:

Survival Meat Assortment

This supply of freeze-dried beef and pork sealed in cans has a long shelf life. The meat products can be reconstituted easily. Valued at \$150, this prize comes from:

Survival, Inc.

2322 Artesia Boulevard
Redondo Beach, CA 90277
Telephone: (800) 533-7415



SEVENTEENTH PRIZE:

Midwest Filet Table, Model FT250

This cleaning/filet table has folding legs, blood drains and a plastic sack for discards. It has a retail value of \$20, and is presented by:

Midwest Sports Distributors, Inc.

P.O. Box 129
Fayette, MO 65248
Telephone: (800) 248-5128



TWELFTH PRIZE:

Large Pistol Case

This black Cordura pistol case is suitable for .44 Magnum revolvers or .45 ACP pistols, and like handguns. The case is valued at \$16, and is presented as a prize by:

Assault Systems

869 Horan Drive
St. Louis, MO 63026
Telephone: (800) 325-3049



FIFTEENTH PRIZE:

Pistol Case

This black Cordura gunsack is for snubbies and smaller pistols of 2-4-inch barrel length. Carrying a retail value of \$13, it is presented as a prize by:

Assault Systems

869 Horan Drive
St. Louis, MO 63026
Telephone: (800) 325-3049



EIGHTEENTH PRIZE:

Ram-Line Magazine

Winners Nos. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25, will receive one each of these Ruger 10/22 30-shot magazines, each valued at \$17, and presented by:

Ram-Line

406 Violet St.
Golden, CO 80401
Telephone: (303) 279-0886



Here a helicopter rescues an injured climber from a gully in Banff National Park in Canada.



Even a simple injury can be an emergency in the wilderness. The wound makes further climbing impossible.

No 'Magic Formula':

WILDERNESS EMERGENCIES

What should you do when faced with an accident in a remote area . . .

By Bill March



The victim is examined and treated for his cut shin and for shock by the party leader.



This leader has an ice axe wound in his right forearm. The party's first aid expert is suturing it closed.

IN THE WILDERNESS, you are isolated from normal life support systems and are dependent upon your own resources. You should be prepared for wilderness accidents, carry a first aid kit, and possess a modicum of basic first aid training. The size and contents of your first aid kit will rest upon a number of variables: (1) the number of people involved and their medical history, (2) the nature of the activity and attendant risks, (3) the degree of isolation, (4) types of environmental hazards, and (5) the knowledge and training of both the leader and the group. Given a reasonable amount of pre-

if you have capable assistance. Check the victim's level of consciousness and possibility of spinal injury. If in doubt, or unable to ascertain trauma, treat as you would for a spinal injury. In all cases, treat for shock by keeping the casualty lying down, warm and comfortable. If injuries permit, elevate the feet except in case of head or back injury, respiratory difficulty or an unsplinted lower fracture. Reassure the casualty by your composure and verbal consideration. Once the situation is under control, perform a comprehensive second examination for any injuries you may have overlooked during the initial examination.

- The condition/strength/equipment of party members,
- The availability of external assistance,
- Time available/darkness approaching/weather conditions, and
- The terrain of the evacuation route.

If a decision is made to send for help, dispatching two people with a written note is optimum. The note should contain the ages and number of casualties, the nature of injuries, the date and time of the accident, and the precise location with a 6-figure map reference. If the accident is in a featureless forested area, give a bearing/measured distance to a known prominent landmark, and note the location of any markers/signals/blazes established to facilitate rescue. The decision to go for help may be influenced by the size of the group. (See the accompanying panel.) Solo or dual wilderness activities carry serious implications in terms of accidents. The decision to leave an injured person alone in order to go for help should be made only after every effort has been expended to attract someone to the scene of the accident. If it is necessary to seek assistance, ensure that the casualty is well-protected from the elements, warm and comfortable. Do not rely on your memory of salient facts. Record them in a note. This will also organize your thoughts and reduce anxiety. Explain to the casualty exactly what you are doing and how long you will be away. Never leave an unconscious casualty unless absolutely necessary. There is danger of airway blockage and subsequent death. If you must leave, secure this person to a tree or rock or inside a tent because he may awake dazed and wander away. Also, leave a concise note explaining your course of action with *instructions to stay put* until help arrives. Leave the unconscious patient in the recovery position to maintain a clear airway.

If the decision is made to evacuate the casualty yourself with improvised equipment, this will normally involve only minor injuries and short carry distances. Improvised stretchers and carries are beyond the scope of this article. (See "Emergency Carries," *ASG*, October, 1984, Page 46.) Most people are familiar with the simple fireman's lift, two-hand carries, piggyback carry and blanket lift. In the wilderness, it is normally necessary to construct a stretcher. Lashing and knot-tying skills are useful. Improvised carries are very hard work and should only be undertaken by strong parties.

In conclusion, all wilderness users should be proficient in basic first aid knowledge and training. Wilderness first aid programs exist that often incorporate standard first aid courses. The independence of wilderness activities must be accompanied by a responsible attitude and sound common sense. ●

"A major misconception is that there is one 'magic formula' that covers all situations."

cautions, what should you do when faced with an accident in the wilderness?

A major misconception is that there is one "magic formula" that covers all situations. The infinite variety of scenarios which can arise in the wilderness do not lend themselves to categorization or the formulation of rigid guidelines. Any accident response must be flexible in order to be appropriate. There are, however, some general principles. The first decision is whether you should assume the leadership role or give your support to a more experienced person. If you do assume responsibility, remember the order of priority:

- Your own personal safety,
- The safety of uninjured parties, and
- The safety of a casualty.

If a member of your party has slipped off a wet deadfall and broken his ankle, other members should be safeguarded from this hazard. Two accidents are far worse than just one.

Access/Approach—Make a relatively rapid assessment of the situation, prepare a plan of action, and then approach the victim. The following principles should be considered: (1) *Approach protected*, ensuring you are not in danger. (2) *Approach prepared*, carrying your first aid kit. (3) *Approach safely*, by not creating further hazards. And (4) *approach in control*, stopping to regain your composure, if out of breath.

On contact with the casualty, observe the basic ABC procedure of standard first aid: airway, breathing and circulation (control bleeding). Delegate responsibility

Inventory the situation fully, or assign this task while you are completing a final plan of action. You may have already attempted to summon immediate help by sounding a distress signal. The standard signal is 3 whistle blasts or gun shots, followed by a 1-minute pause, then repeated. At night, 3 flashes with a flashlight, or a red flare, may be substituted. You can also use the international distress signal, SOS: 3 short, 3 long, 3 short, signals. Do not expend unnecessary effort signalling in a remote area with little chance of nearby assistance. In remote areas, 3 signal smoke fires in a triangle would attract aerial attention, as would the ground air signal X, which signifies "unable to proceed."

The final plan of action revolves around one of three choices: (1) Stay where you are and send a message for help. (2) Arrange to evacuate the casualty yourself, improvising the necessary equipment. Or (3) do both (1) and (2) at the same time. In order to make the correct decision, you must consider the following factors:

- The nature of casualty injuries,

EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE PROCEDURE

Number In Party	Stay With Casualty	Seek Help
1	0	1
2	1	1
3	1	2
4	2	2
5	3	2

A Twist:

HAYWIRE KLAMPER

On a tool value scale, this one rates as a 10, right along with a pocket knife . . .

Staff Evaluation



▲ The Klamper kit includes a model clamp, a roll of practice wire, and the tool itself.

Here is the staff's handiwork with the Haywire Klamper, a lance made from a broomhandle, a Gerber Survival Knife and 16-gauge soft iron wire.



THE KID WHO works in the stockroom here is regarded as resident muscle. You want it moved, he moves it—with arms like Mr. Universe, back and thigh muscles like Godzilla, a veritable ripper-in-two of New York telephone directories. *American Survival Guide* staff members gave this weight-trained martial-arts maniac two pieces of wood that had been bonded together with use of a "Haywire Klamper" and directed this knuckle-dragger son-of-Incredible-Hulk to pull them apart.

He couldn't.

The Haywire Klamper is a device for forming clamps and/or bindings of soft iron wire. These bindings can be used for hose clamps, making a fluid-tight seal. They can be used to make structural trusses from pre-formed steel tubing. They can be used to repair snowshoe frames and wooden tool handles. They can be used for welding clamps, holding the two pieces of metal in proper alignment until the torch or electrode can be brought up to finish the joint. Emergency repairs of many kinds can be accomplished with the Haywire Klamper. The device has even been used to make a one-man kayak frame from willow limbs. The boat frame was covered with

3-mil polyvinyl sheeting, then set afloat.

The Knack—There's a knack, if not a trick, and definitely a twist to using the Haywire Klamper. *ASG* people made several false starts, though paying close attention to instructions supplied with the Klamper, before completing the first successful, workmanlike-looking binding.

The Klamper makes hose clamps and bindings from any soft iron wire of 14-gauge diameter or *smaller*. For practice, *ASG* staff members selected smaller, easier to work with 16-gauge wire. Each Haywire Klamper kit contains the Klamper, a roll of wire, and a preformed double-strength hose clamp formed of 14-gauge wire to serve as a model for the Klamper's function of winding wire tightly around various objects and fittings.

To Start—A length of wire must be doubled to start the binding/clamp. The accompanying table shows proper lengths for making double- and single-strength clamps/bindings for hoses from 0.75 inch to 4 inches in diameter. The wire must be doubled into a tight U-shaped configuration, called the "loop" in Klamper instructions. The parallel ends of the wire are

called the "tails."

The tails are wrapped around the hose—or whatever is to be bound with iron wire—and threaded through the loop. The ends of the tails are threaded through holes in the shaft of the turn-key part of the Klamper tool. A notch in the nose of the Klamper body is inserted into the apex of the loop. Turning the key winds the parallel tails around the key shaft, and pulls the tails through the loop until they are tight around the hose, pipe, fitting or whatever. To finish off the clamp, the Klamper body is rotated *over* the loop and down. The tails are cut off evenly and pressed down to make the homemade wire clamp look like a factory job. Finally, the parts of the tails that are wound onto the turn-key shaft must be unwound and discarded before the Klamper is ready to make another binding.

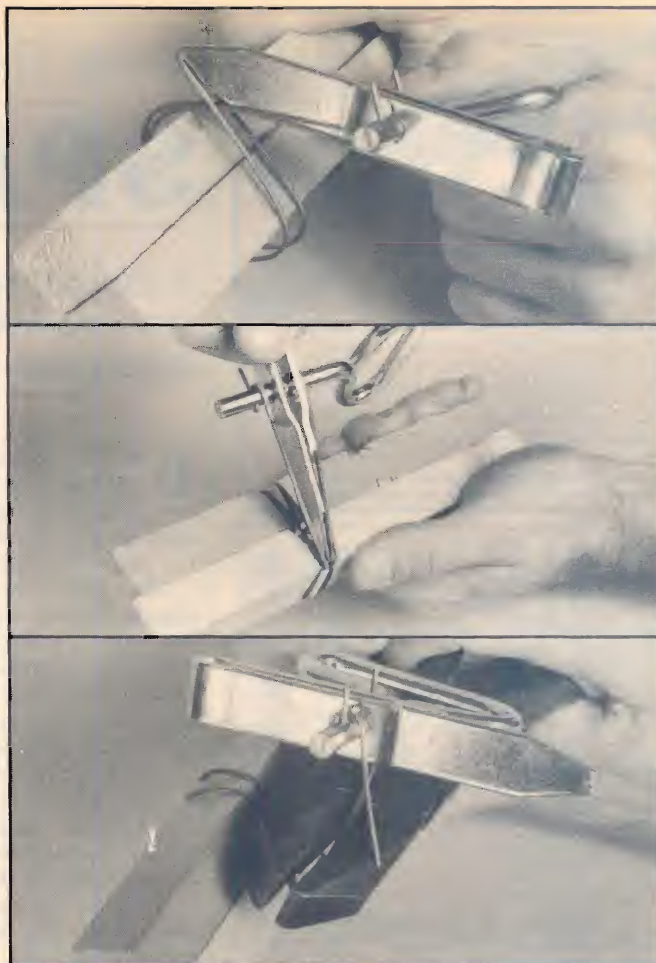
To create a double-wire binding, it is necessary to thread the wire tails through the U-shaped loop *twice*, before inserting the tail ends through the holes in the key shaft. Otherwise making a double clamp is just like making a single binding. For the sake of neatness and a secure fit of the double clamp or binding for maximum seal effectiveness, the wires of the clamp



These are the holes in the turn-key through which the wire "tails" are inserted, and wound tightly around the key shaft. The notch in the end of the tool holds the wire at the apex of the "loop," and provides a fulcrum/lever action when finishing off a clamp.



The "Demogadget" displays a tight, doubled-loop hose clamp over a rubber tube joined to a 5/8-inch steel fitting, plus a doubled wire binding to create a T-joint with two sections of steel tubing.



A Haywire Klamper clamp starts with a wire bent in a U-shape, then looped around the two pieces of wood to be bound together. As the key is turned, the "tails" are wound on the key shaft, drawing the clamp wires tight. Finally, the tool is levered over the U, and the tails are cut off neatly with side-cutters.

must be kept parallel on either side of the loop and on both sides of the Klamper tool itself.

Because iron wire is malleable, overstretching it can cause the wire to crystallize and break, hence care must be taken during the turning of the key and levering

at the finish of a clamp because the Klamper can produce sufficient mechanical advantage to break the wire—or to crush nylon fittings, say, or otherwise damage the work.

A demonstration device, "a Demogadget," provided by the Haywire Klamper's manufacturer, showed a double-strength hose clamp, and a doubled T-binding for two pieces of 5/8-inch steel tubing. The office muscle man was asked to separate these two pieces by brute force: He grunted and groaned, veins stood out on his forehead, and his neck corded as he twisted and pulled mightily on the Demogadget, but the wire clamps held firm, and the Demogadget came through the ordeal unscathed.

The Haywire Klamper, in ASG staff hands, was used to fashion a spear or lance from a Gerber Survival Knife and a common broomhandle. The crew unanimously agreed that they would not wish to face an enemy equipped with this contrived weapon.

Evaluation—In a survival situation, where the need is to fabricate a shelter, mend a hose, repair a tool, fashion a truss, build a boat or make a lance, the Haywire

Klamper can produce all manner of truly tight wire-bound joints.

On ASG's scale of tool values, the Haywire Klamper rates at a 10, right along with a lockback folder pocket knife, and hammer and nails. For sheer utility, the Klamper is unsurpassed.

The steel tool's body is 4¼ inches long, and its winding key and shaft together are 3 inches long. The device weighs 4 ounces.

As stated, the Haywire Klamper requires some practice before the user gets the hang of winding those bindings. Once the user acquires the knack, those bindings can be cinched into place quickly and easily—and more than mere muscle power is required to pull the Klamper clamp loose.

All the uses for the Haywire Klamper haven't been thought of yet.

The Haywire Klamper is supplied with a roll of 16-gauge wire, the aforementioned model binding, and the tool itself. The suggested retail price is \$8.35.

Haywire Klampers are made and marketed by Woodbern Manufacturing, P.O. Box 353, Dept. ASG, Libby, MT 59923, phone (406) 293-3926. Woodbern Manufacturing will supply additional details. ●

LENGTHS: HAYWIRE KLAMPER BINDING WIRE

HOSE DIAMETER, INCHES	CLAMP, DOUBLE-STRENGTH	CLAMP SINGLE-STRENGTH
0.75	19.00	13.00
1.00	21.50	14.50
1.25	24.00	16.00
1.50	28.00	17.50
2.00	34.50	21.00
2.50	40.50	24.00
3.00	47.50	28.00
4.00	62.00	34.00

The wire measurements shown above are for full-length cuts. To create a clamp or binding, it is necessary to bend the wire in the middle, then double the wire back on itself, through the "loop."

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Staff Evaluation

B EING ABLE to start a fire anywhere, any time, every time, is a basic survival skill. Carrying a fire-starter of minimum weight, and of the most compact size is a survivalist trick-of-the-trade.

The Spark-Lite meets all of these criteria, no two ways about it. The mini fire-maker was reviewed in the February, 1985, issue of *American Survival Guide*. Since that time, the ASG staff has acquired a Spark-Lite and put its fire-making capability to the test.

The device is much like the igniter from a cigarette lighter, employing a spark wheel turned rapidly against a standard lighter flint to create sparks to ignite tinder which kindles the fire.

Used with the treated cotton tinder supplied with the Spark-Lite, ASG staff members did not fail, in 10 successive tries, to kindle a fire on the first vigorous twirl of the spark wheel.

The cigarette lighter flint is held in a small brass tube at 90 degrees to the spark wheel's direction of rotation. A threaded

end plug holds the flint and flint tension spring in place. A knurled brass thumb knob actuates the spark wheel.

A small section of the Spark-Lite "Fire Tab" material is fluffed-up at one end, and the Spark-Lite Flint assembly casing is held with the thumb and forefinger of one hand. The knurled spark knob is twisted rapidly with thumb and finger of the other hand so that sparks fall directly on the tinder. And the flint sparks ignite the tinder, which blazes up readily.

The L-shaped Spark-Lite, a spare flint and two 4-inch lengths of "Fire Tab" treated cotton rope tinder are packed in a small, bright orange watertight container, 1 1/2 inches in diameter by 3/4 inch deep. A press-fit cover snaps in place to keep the tinder dry.

The compact container can be carried in a pocket, belt pouch or survival kit as a backup for matches.

The Spark-Lite kit retails for \$8.95, postpaid, from Products Unique, 210 Fifth Ave., Dept. ASG, New York, NY 10010. ●



A twist of the knob, sparks fly, and the tinder burns, ready to kindle a fire.



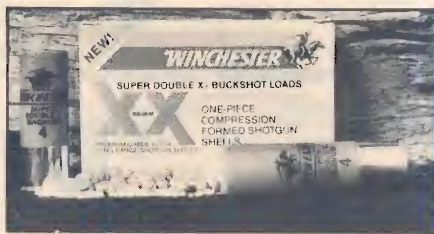
The Spark-Lite kit includes a watertight container, treated cotton tinder material, and an extra flint.

SURVIVAL STUFF



Range It

The 80/2 Pro Rangefinder for crossbows provides accurate distance readings from 20 to 100 yards. With its streamlined design and light weight, just 10 ounces, the 80/2 is convenient to carry in the field. Advanced light transmission delivers bright images which are brought into coincidence to achieve accurate distance readings. A rugged Cyalac housing provides durability and an optional camouflage carrying case for \$14.50 is available. Suggested retail price for the 80/2 is \$57.50. For more information, write Ranging, Inc., A Coleman Company, 980 Turk Hill Road, Dept. ASG, Fairport, NY 14450.



Super X

Shotgun-shooting deer hunters can count on higher density buckshot patterns from the five new 12 gauge Winchester Super Double X Magnum copper-plated buckshot loads from Olin Corporation, Winchester Group, 120 Long Ridge Road, Dept. ASG, Stamford, CT 06904. The new loads, in 2 3/4-inch and 3-inch lengths, combine Super Grex buffering with harder pellets to improve pattern density for up to 15 yards of extra range over loads without buffering and copper plating. Further insurance of increased pattern efficiency at longer ranges is the new loads' special wad that is designed to absorb shock and guard against pellet deformation. Suggested retail price is about \$5 per package of 5 loads.



Police Holster

The Viking Police Duty Holster Model 3270 is available from a new series manufactured to law enforcement specifications. The model features an integral thumb-break strap, steel-reinforced shank, top grain leather lining, hand tooled and molded to fit, full-welted seam, and 2 1/4-inch belt slot. Suggested prices range from \$33.95. For a free catalog on the complete Viking leather line, write to Viking Leathercraft, Inc., 2248-2 Main St., Dept. ASG, Chula Vista, CA 92011.



Photography by Dick Tirschel

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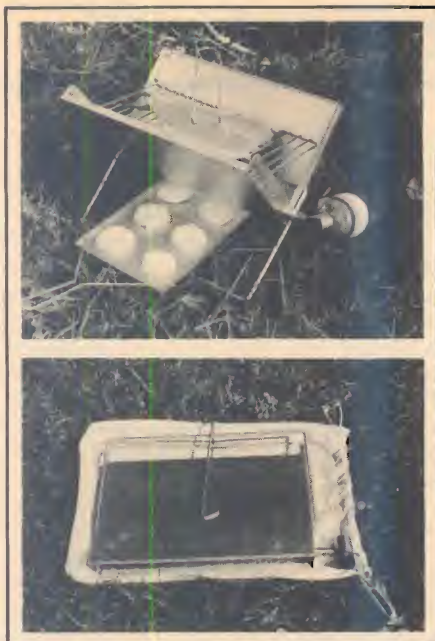
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Survival Knife

Made to strict government specifications, this fixed-blade pilot survival knife features a solid leather handle, hardened-steel-guard, hammer butt and 5-inch super-tough carbon steel blade with blood-groove, sawtooth top edge and black phosphate coating. Overall size is 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Suggested retail price is \$25.95. The knife comes with a camouflaged leather sheath that is coated with preservative to prevent mold, rot and fungus. The sheath contains a stone pocket with buckle, sharpening stone and nylon laces. For more information write Camillus Cutlery Company, P.O. Box 38, Dept. ASG, Camillus, NY 13031-0038. ●

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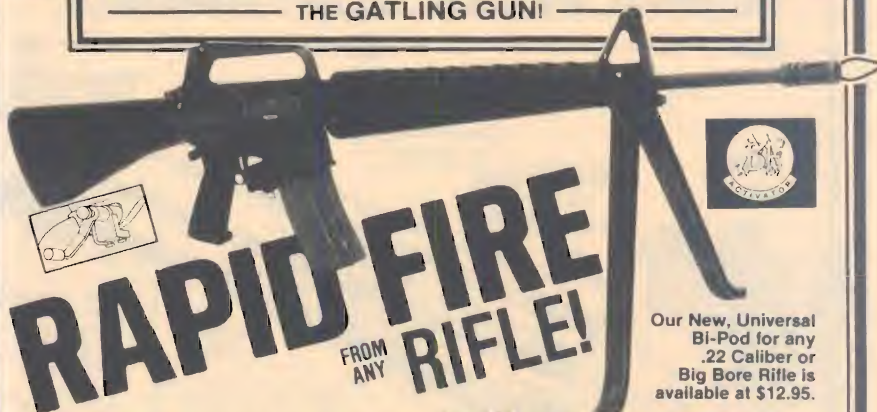
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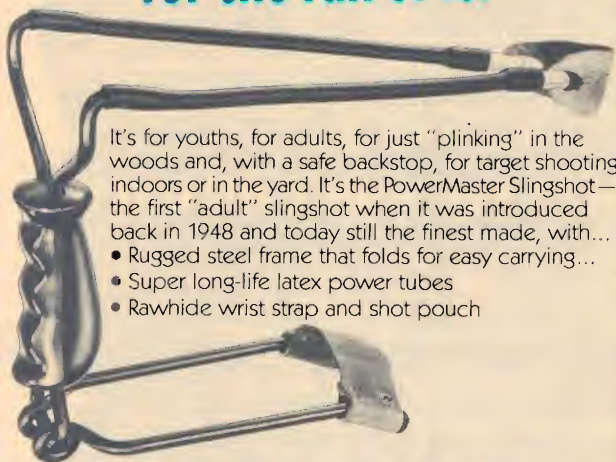
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ASIAN MARTIAL ARTS

(Continued from page 51)

Internal Systems—With this basic outline of Chinese (and Japanese, Korean, and Indonesian) thought in mind, you can more clearly examine the roots of the various martial arts. Although the concepts of the Tao and the energy called "chi" go back into Chinese antiquity, it is not until the writings of Hua To in the 2nd century A.D. that these ideas are found applied to combat. In his work, the *Five Animal Frolic*, the physician Hua To illustrated a series of fighting movements based on the action of animals such as the bear, crane, and snake.

In time, these animal movements were incorporated into what are called the "internal" or "soft" systems of Hsing-I, Pakua, and T'ai-chi ch'uan, although forms of these arts were probably being practiced long before Hua To wrote about them. In these internal systems, the primary goal of the practitioner is to harness "chi," the life energy which permeates all things. This is done through the strict regulation of breathing by the practitioner, who moves very slowly and deliberately through the postures and movements of the style he practices.

In Chinese medical theory, the life force, or "chi," moves through the human body along invisible "meridians" or paths. It is on this theory that Chinese acupuncture is based. Insertion of needles in specific areas can either block or stimulate the movement of "chi" to vital organs. For the internal martial art stylist, the close regulation of breathing through circular, harmonious movement helps to "sink" and concentrate the "chi" in an area just below the navel, called the "tan tien." For this reason, the soft or internal systems stress a method of breathing which fills up the lower abdomen, much like the breathing techniques used in Yoga. Because of this concentration on breathing, internal styles take far longer to learn than most "external," or "hard" styles, and the majority of people who practice these internal methods do so primarily for reasons of health and for spiritual development, not self-defense.

There are some very clear contrasts between the "hard" external styles that originated with the Buddhist influence of Shaolin, and the soft, internal styles that evolved from Taoism in southern China. The internal styles prefer circular, fluid movements. The external styles concentrate on linear, direct movements. In the internal, the force of an opponent's attack is not met with counter-force. Instead, it is redirected and used against the attacker. External styles are often characterized by blows of the hands and feet. Internal styles employ throws, takedowns, and joint locks. In most external styles, fighting occurs at "long-hand" range, where blows of the hands or legs will extend fully. In the

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The Northern Shaolin Kung fu system employs high kicks and long-range techniques, whereas, the Southern Sil Lum style advocates low kicks to the legs and infighting.

internal methods, fighting is at "short-hand" range, up close at infighting distance. In a somewhat simplistic way, one might say that the internal or soft systems concentrate on training just the mind, while external styles concentrate on hardening the body.

While dualities of internal/external, short/long, circular/linear can help to describe various forms of Kung fu, it must be remembered that most of the systems prevalent today have combined many of these dualities into one style. It is, for example, almost impossible to find a totally hard system without some soft facets to it, and vice versa. One expert asserts: "there is . . . no such thing as a solely hard style" in Chinese martial arts. "All hard styles have incorporated soft techniques from other schools, and a few hard techniques can be found even in the softest of all martial arts, T'ai-chi ch'uan."

Hsing-I—Movements in Hsing-I are based upon the actions of 12 animals, most notably the horse, monkey, and tiger. The basic postures used correspond to the Taoist "elements": earth, water, fire, wood, and metal. Though the movements

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ASIAN MARTIAL ARTS

of Hsing-I are less circular than those of Pakua or T'ai-chi, it is nonetheless almost entirely a soft art. The dynamic basis of Hsing-I revolves around the concepts of form and meaning. At first, the student duplicates the form of animal movement, and through diligent practice, eventually comes to understand the meaning or "idea" behind the movements of an opponent in advance, making defense quite simple and reflexive. At such a point, the practitioner is essentially "one with nature."

Pakua—A sort of companion system to Hsing-I is Pakua. It is common for a master to require that a student learn Hsing-I before moving into Pakua, which is far more circular in its methodology. Pakua means "eight diagrams," a reference to the foundation of the ancient *Book of Changes*, which dates back to around 800 B.C. or so. In Pakua, upright stances are preferred, and the practitioner is constantly moving in a circle, although the direction of circling may change at any moment. Says one master:

"In Pakua, the emphasis is on tricks and subtle evasion. Unlike Hsing-I, it does not require one to face the opponent directly . . . In Pakua, one tries to move in circles to avoid direct confrontation, thereby permitting one to deflect and overturn 1,000 kilos of strength with only 100 grams. Hsing-I is direct and linear, Pakua is indirect and circular. T'ai-chi works in all directions."

T'ai-chi ch'uan—Without doubt T'ai-chi ch'uan is the "granddaddy" of the internal systems, possibly dating back 5,000 years. The Taoist concept of the interaction of Yin and Yang form the foundation of this art, which is still very popular in Asia. It is practiced primarily as a form of healthful exercise today, although individuals who train in T'ai-chi for many years do develop actual fighting ability. While many of the graceful movements have flowery names and do not appear combative to the untrained eye, its looks are deceiving. Many of the greatest boxers in China were practitioners of T'ai-chi ch'uan (Grand Ultimate Boxing). Usually, a student of the internal arts begins by studying Hsing-I and Pakua before moving up to the more complex T'ai-chi.

Yielding is one of the key principles of T'ai-chi. By moving in circles, the practitioner develops an ability to injure an opponent by striking or locking vital points of his anatomy while simultaneously deflecting his incoming attack. **Adherence** is another important concept: once an attack is deflected, the defender is grasped so that locks, pins, or pressure to vital areas can be applied to end the fight. This

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skill is developed through the "trapping" or "sticking" hands exercise, a form of close-quarter grappling that is also found in some of the external styles. *Expulsion* is the final principle; once the attacker is neutralized, he is hurled away. This is where the skillful release of the carefully cultivated "chi" comes into play.

In all of the internal arts, slow, deliberate movements are emphasized in the practice forms. Relaxation is the primary objective, because an excited mind blocks the harnessing of "chi." For the internal stylist, developing "chi" is everything.

Northern Shaolin—In contrast to the soft, Taoist systems from the South of China, those developed in the North tended to be hard and direct, with a greater emphasis on blows than on throws and holds. Many scholars point to the differences of terrain and the character of the Northern and Southern Chinese to explain these different preferences. Northern people tended to be taller, more robust in build, and were accustomed to long journeys by foot or on horseback. Southerners, on the other hand, were of shorter stature and did much of their traveling by boat. Some say these distinctions led to an emphasis on feet in the North, and arms in the South, which may, in fact, be true.

Although the movements of animals also played a great part in the development of Northern Shaolin styles, the Buddhists did not make the same distinction between mind and body as did their Taoist counterparts, so the development of a strong body and powerful techniques became a Shaolin hallmark. In the North, techniques tended to be linear and long range, because kicking required more space between combatants. Breathing techniques were also radically different from those of the Taoists. Instead of breathing into the lower abdomen to stabilize "chi," the Northern boxer breathed through the nose, keeping his tongue on the roof of the mouth and concentrating the air in the upper chest. This allegedly creates a buoyancy of sorts, and provides a more explosive, short term form of power than does the Taoist method. It also does not take years to learn.

Eventually, the methods of the Buddhists at Shaolin began to expand, and various spin-off styles emerged. Some new styles might be based upon philosophical concepts, or perhaps a specialty technique such as the "tiger claw" or "crane's beak" would be expanded into a sub-system all its own. After the Manchus conquered China, these systems went underground and were only taught to close family or within the confines of secret societies dedicated to the overthrow of the invaders. As such, the Shaolin monks and their boxing methods came to be a rallying point for

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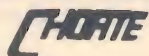
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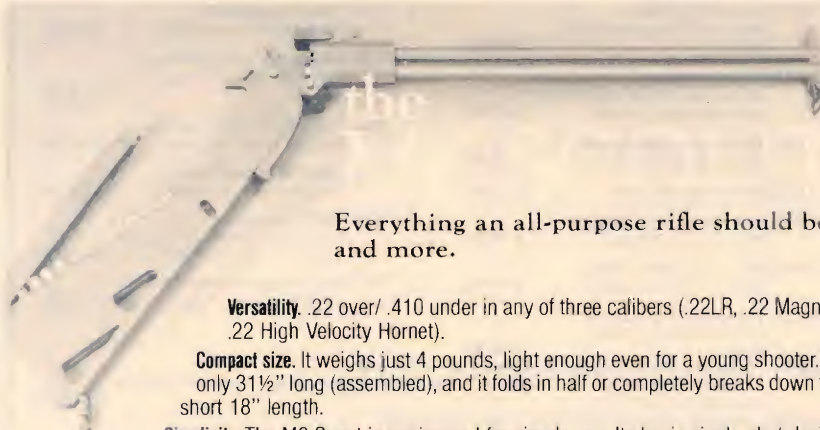
Chinese nationalism during the oppressive reign of the Manchus.

As many of the Shaolin monks fled to other lands and as the influence of Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism spread to neighboring countries, so too did the influence of the hard Shaolin styles. Tae Kwon Do in Korea, Karate in Okinawa, and Silat in Indonesia were all profoundly affected by the hard Northern styles. Even the internal styles had an effect on both the Ju-jutsu of Japan and the warrior art of Hwarang do in Korea. And in Southern China, a new branch of Shaolin developed, with some interesting new concepts of its own.

Southern Shaolin—Combinations of the hard and soft styles of Kung fu are most prevalent in what are termed the Southern Shaolin or Sil Lum (Cantonese) styles. These systems use both linear and circular movements, but prefer short-hand infighting to the long-hand techniques of the North. Also, they are characterized by low kicks to the legs, as opposed to the high kicks used in the North. Unlike the soft styles, however, the Sil Lum systems stress speed and power, often striking and blocking with both arms at the same time. This is called the "simultaneous attack and defense," and one might say that these Southern Shaolin styles are more aggressive and attack-oriented than the soft styles. Because these are infighting systems, most place an emphasis on "sticking" or "trapping" hands, a method whereby an attacker's arms are pinned or immobilized against his torso so that unobstructed blows can be delivered to his head and body. In this practice, the student tries to "read" his opponent's intent through the pressure generated by contact between their forearms and wrists. The most popular of these Southern styles are Wing Chun, Hung Gar, and Choy Li Fut.

Many of these Southern Sil Lum styles use the vertical fist punch as opposed to the corkscrew or "reverse" punch so favored in the North and in Karate. The internal styles, on the other hand, use primarily open hand blows, and seldom resort to the fist. Although the corkscrewing punch adds a certain "snap" at full extension, it is slower to deliver than the vertical fist punch, which may explain why the speed-oriented Sil Lum styles prefer the latter.

In the North, a great deal of emphasis was also placed on "forms" practice (kata in Japanese). This consisted of a pre-rehearsed set of moves against an imaginary opponent, which required the practitioner to visualize actual combat and to apply appropriate techniques against imaginary attackers. While Southern schools still utilize forms, there are fewer of them, and the more acrobatic move-



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ments, such as leaping and flying kicks, are omitted in most systems. Many of the more acrobatic systems are now referred to as "Wu shu," implying that they are intended as performances of gymnastic skill, rather than as actual combat training. Chinese Wu shu troupes have been touring the world for quite some time now, but the martial arts you see them performing have, for the most part, ceased to be combat-effective.

Diffusion—Just as the major religions and philosophies of China came to dominate much of Asia, so too did many of the concepts and methods of Chinese Kung fu come to influence the fighting arts that developed elsewhere. One can see in the leaping kicks of Korean Tae Kwon Do the remnants of the leg-oriented, long-hand methods of Northern Shaolin. In Japanese Ju-jutsu and Judo remain the concepts of yielding and softness so much a part of the internal Taoist styles of Southern China. Okinawan Karate (originally translated as "China hand"), to be covered in an upcoming article along with Asian weapons training, was imported from Fukien Province in China, while weapons were banned on Okinawa. Japanese Karate, as it is known today, was brought to that country from Okinawa only a short time after 1900, making Japanese Karate a relatively "new" martial art. Even the relatively new "hybrid" systems for spiritual development, Aikido and Shorinji Kempo, are based on esoteric Taoist and Zen (Cha'n) Buddhist concepts which can be traced back to China. Philippine "Eskrima" and Indonesian "Silat" were clearly influenced by Chinese kung-fu when both island nations were part of the Majapayit Empire, during the 13th to 16th Centuries.

It would certainly be untrue to imply that these other nations did not practice martial arts, but most of the fighting forms found in these areas emphasize weapons, and not empty-hand fighting. This is particularly true of Japan, where training in the use of weapons was considered far more important than unarmed combat. In Indonesia, the knife or "kris" was much favored, while in the Philippines both knives and rattan sticks were the weapons of choice. It may be reasonable to assume that many of these cultures simply borrowed what they needed from empty-hand Chinese systems to supplement their already sophisticated weapon arts. By having a basic understanding of the Chinese "roots" of most of the Asian fighting arts, the interested survivalist will find himself better equipped to determine what sort of instruction to seek, and where to look for it, instead of having to just "take some Karate" and hope for the best. ●

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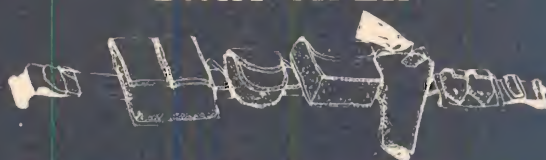
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SURVIVAL ON A BUDGET

Trying to prepare for total independence calls for use of your most important piece of survival equipment—your brain . . .

By Roger A. Pryor

ANY SURVIVAL BOOK worth its salt will tell you that preparation is your first priority. Yet most of us are not *quite* prepared to survive. There are some loose ends here and there to the plans—loose ends that could be just enough to make the difference between life and death. The reason for this deadly lack of preparation is simple: most survivalists cannot afford to survive. When you add up the cost of a good retreat, tools, rifles, handguns and ammunition in proper quantities, food for long-term storage, extra clothing, medical supplies, and properly equipped escape vehicles, the expense is staggering. For a family of five, it's almost defeating. As a survivalist, the first thing you have to learn is to look at a problem realistically, and without prejudice. Let's face it, for the 40-hour-a-week

survivalist, trying to prepare for total independence can be a real challenge, one that calls for your most important piece of survival equipment—your brain. The brain doesn't cost a cent. Why wait till the bubble breaks to use it? Rev up now to trim the fat from your budget, and increase the efficiency of your expenditures.

The following basic blueprint should be regarded as a general budget guide which you can tailor to your individual needs.

Essential Planning—The first thing you need is a realistic plan. Factors in making this plan are your spendable income, health, age, family composition, present location and retreat location, etc. You may say that your plans don't call for a retreat, but whatever space on this earth you intend to occupy when disaster strikes, is

your retreat. Your plan should provide for escape and evasion of hostile situations, during both the immediate panic and the long-term situation. This escape and evasion plan should be both by vehicle and foot, because vehicles can easily be disabled, and roads may be impassable.

Subsistence Survival—Your retreat plan should be multi-phase. The first phase should be subsistence level survival. It may not be much, but it can be accomplished at little cost. Once this level is in place it can be improved periodically as time, labor and cost will allow. The big problem is land purchase, which will be addressed later. Anyone can plan. It may be tedious, if you are inexperienced at that sort of thing, but it doesn't cost anything more than paper, pencil and time. For ideas, you can talk with other people who have already done it. Or, if you are totally inexperienced in this matter, read *Tappan On Survival*, published by Janus Press, at a modest \$7.95. This book provides a good basis for planning, although when the author discusses taking 1,400 rounds of ammo to the range to test a rifle, there comes a parting of the ways for the budget survivalist. What you need is a balanced approach that will fulfill your needs.

Group Rates—You must economize these expenses in the specific so that you can achieve the general objective. The goal must be reached or all is lost. One of the ways you can go about this is to start or join a group. After all, why should you pay the entire bill yourself when you can share the costs with other people and gain some valuable skills for free. The survival group, in theory at least, is the best way to go. It can be the best way in reality, too, if you take the time to do it right. The first thing that is necessary is for you to find people with whom you are compatible. Someday you may have to live and work with them.



Raccoons and other pests may teach you a lesson on the integrity of your storage facilities.



Surplus walkie-talkies, "civilian" firearms, and escape equipment can be purchased economically.



Bricks and windows from old buildings being torn down can come in handy for retreat building materials.



Keep ammo to yourself, but other items such as toilet paper and Tampax can be purchased in quantity as barter items. The folk to whom you trade the ammo may return one day and take your barter goods away by force.

If you can't do it now, you won't be able to do it later. You must plan together. Set common goals and rules that you are willing and able to accept. The advantages are obvious. Take tools, for example. As 10 individual families, you would have to buy 10 sets of tools, a considerable expenditure at today's prices. In contrast, a survival group may have to buy only one set of tools to do the job. This is quite a saving that is better spent elsewhere. The division of labor, and individual expertise, can be strong factors in deciding to join a group. Even if you start with a subsistence level retreat, 10 families building a cabin or underground shelter is a lot easier and less expensive than members of one family trying to do it all by themselves. Another excellent reason for joining a group is to provide for a common defense. Defense could be particularly difficult, were you ill or injured. A group can be a tremendous advantage. There are also disadvantages, but a group can make your survival preparation much more practical and less expensive.

Practical Weapons—As a group or individual you must still buy equipment. One of the foremost items in terms of expense is weapons. To outfit one family with state-of-the-art assault weapons, and what most experts concede is enough ammo, will cost about as much as a new car. This is just for openers! This doesn't account for the large-ticket items yet. As you can see, if you spend all your money on weapons you may suffer badly in other areas of preparation. There is some agreement that rifles chambered for the .308 round are fairly practical for certain types of defense plans. After adding up the cost, you may decide to plan around weapons chambered for the cheaper .223 in order to provide sufficient weapons and ammunition. If you really must cut back, you can get three 6.5 Italian Carcano rifles for

\$119.50 and 3,220 rounds of ammo for \$272, plus 10 percent dealer cost. Adapt your defense plans around what you can afford. The question is whether you can adequately defend your family now! If time permits, you can always upgrade the quality of your equipment, either using the equipment you have now for back-up or selling it to purchase a better grade of weapons. You are better off to be prepared now, and to upgrade as time, money and priorities permit.

Basic Food Storage—The same thinking applies to your food storage. Say your scenario is for three years. Consider freeze dried food that possesses quality protein at 2,000 calories per day, which is necessary because of stress and/or combat. You can easily see what a burden the cost of this would be on the average person. Gather it little by little. In the meantime, store water, wheat, powdered nonfat milk, salt, honey, dried beans, and rice polishings, plus condiments. It's not an exciting diet, but adequate. The best part about the author's present food storage is that it is not on paper, it's on site. There are several books that tell how to provide this type of diet adequately. One of the best is *Passport to Survival* by Esther Dickey, published by Bookcraft, Salt Lake City, Utah, \$7.50, in hardback.

Medical Supplies—The best piece of medical equipment that you can have is knowledge. Without knowledge your equipment is useless. Many community organizations offer free basic and advanced first aid courses, including CPR training. The next step would be to take the Emergency Medical Technician course. With textbooks, this could cost \$150, but it is one expense you will never regret. You don't have to buy an off-the-shelf medical kit. You can save by taking these courses and have a better idea of your specific needs. Then you will be able to determine the most efficient use of your medical expenditures.



An auction house can provide many survival items, and barter goods, at reasonable cost.



Postal vehicles like this can make serviceable escape vehicles. They're available from time to time at auction.

Yard Sale/Surplus—Make a list of equipment that you need. Many of these items can be found at yard sales, flea markets, second-hand stores, etc. The items are out there, so get up off your duff and go get them. This is an excellent way to obtain all the extra clothing you will need. Remember, it's not style that counts, it's the function. Don't forget extra walking shoes and boots. These go on site; don't leave them at home.

U.S. Vehicles—As for vehicles, if you can afford to buy and equip a new one, please read another article in this magazine. It will do you more good. If you can't afford an extra vehicle sitting at the ready all the time, try to make your family vehicle as close to what you need as possible. If you are in a group, it is possible that more than one family can use the same vehicle. If you don't have a mechanic in your group, get one. Don't buy the first thing you see, take your time to shop and compare. You can get some amazingly good guys from Uncle Sam at such places as the Post Office, U.S. Customs, Department of Defense, General Services Administration, State Government sales, local auctions, etc.—Go! Use that same ability you need to survive to complete your preparations.

Low-Cost Housing—Housing can be provided in many different ways. The *Mother Earth News* has more ways to build a house with very little money than Bayer has aspirin. For example, there are stack log, rammed earth, stone, foam, 2x4 stack, adobe, sod, etc., all at minimal cost. If you live in the right area, a log cabin can be constructed. It is not the optimum structure, but it will do for starters. If you look around, there are a lot of free building materials. There are 2x4 and 2x6 lumber from places that prefabricate roof and floor joist. Bricks and old windows from buildings that are being torn down can come in handy, as can concrete block from trailer owners, with permission of course. No. 10 tin cans can be cut at the seam and

SURVIVAL ON A BUDGET

flattened out, to be used as shingles. Come on, use some of that ingenuity. Anyone can do it.

Trade—Barter is a skill that you can develop now that will serve you well later. Nobody's perfect. It is almost impossible for you to foresee every hardship that may come your way in a survival situation. You can make all the plans you want, and it is still possible for something to go wrong. Improper packing may have destroyed some of your food supplies. Local raccoons may teach you a lesson on the integrity of your storage facilities. You may find out the springs in your favorite rifle are not immortal. It could be bad, really bad, and you may have only one way out. You have to plan for the unexpected. If you have

planned properly you will be able to trade for what you need. Oh sure, you may try to take what you need, but that may put a bigger hole in your plans that you anticipate. That hole may be equally hard to deal with. Barter could provide much better results. It may even provide some lasting friendships and alliances. If you're smart, you will have laid up a good stockpile of cheap, usable items—articles that people don't usually associate with survival, things that are common and plentiful now, that will be hard to manufacture later. Little luxuries will be much in demand. Take matches, for example. They are so common and cheap now that no one gives them much thought, but they will be in big demand when there are no more. They are difficult and dangerous to

make in your kitchen, and right now you can buy a whole case for a few dollars. Other tradable items are safety pins, needles, thread, used clothing, socks, underwear, gloves, mirrors, extra spoons, forks, knives, nails, screws, hinges, books, games, sheets, blankets, glue, string, and many other items. Sanitary napkins can be bought in bulk at places such as restaurant supply houses, and 50 percent of the surviving population will need them. Many trade items don't have to be new. You can pick them up for 50 cents a boxfull at most auctions—kitchen strainers, glassware, old hammers, files, pliers. Take a lesson from history, read about the world wars, the great depression, monetary failures, etc. Some things will surprise you. The more you learn the better you will be able to determine what you will need for trade goods in your situation.

EQUIPMENT LIST: PHASE 1, ESCAPE AND EVASION

PP—(Per Person)

G—(Group)

- 1 each PP Two (2) weeks supply of food (dried or freeze dried)
- 1 each PP Knapsack
- 1 each G Compass
- 1 each G Sectional topographic maps of traversed area
- 1 each G Road map
- 1 each PP Knife with sheath
- 1 each G Hatchet with case
- 100 each PP Matches
- 1 each G Lighter
- 1 each PP Complete change of clothes
- 1 each PP Rifle semi-auto centerfire or shotgun pump
- 1 each PP Quality boots, waterproof
- 1 each PP Ammunition, 200 rounds per weapon
- 1 each PP Tent or tarp
- 1 each PP Sleeping bag or bed roll
- 1 each PP Canteen
- 1 each PP Web belt
- 1 each PP Mess kit
- 25 each PP Fishhooks
- 1 each PP 100 yards monofilament line
- 1 each PP First aid kit
- 1 each G Flashlight
- 1 each PP String, 100 feet
- 1 each G Toothpaste
- 1 each PP Toothbrush
- 1 each G Liquid soap
- 1 each PP Toilet paper
- 1 each PP Sewing kit
- 1 each G Binoculars
- 1 each PP Vaseline petroleum jelly
- 1 each PP Tampax or substituted, as needed

EQUIPMENT LIST: PHASE 2, GROUP ESCAPE AND EVASION

PP—(Per Person)

G—(Group)

- 1 each G 4-wheel-drive vehicle, manual transmission
- 5 each G Self-sealing tires
- 1 each G Tool kit
- 2 each G Fan and/or alternator belt
- 1 each G 1 gallon motor oil (10W/40)
- 1 each G 10 gallons water
- 1 each G 20 gallons gasoline, sufficient from point A to point B
- 1 each G 2 weeks rations, including water
- 2 each G Standard shovel
- 1 each G Pickaxe
- 1 each G Radiator sealant (4 oz. can)
- 1 each G Extra ammunition (400 rounds per weapon)
- 1 each G Gasoline or alcohol stove, fuel
- 1 each G Vehicle hoses, formed and other
- 1 each G Compact, high-capacity weapon, M-3, Gas-9, Mac-10, Sten

The Big Ticket Item—Now for the big ticket item—land. Your cost here will be determined by what type of scenario you envision, where and what you buy. You are best advised to go with a group: it is much cheaper. There is land for sale all over the country for as little as \$150 per acre. Get your hands on a *Strout Realty Catalog* and a *United Farm Agency Catalog* check them out. *Strout* is a nationwide real estate company that prints a catalog of property descriptions with prices and terms, plus the dealer in that area. The *Strout Real Estate Company* toll free number is (800) 641-4266. *United Farm* also has a toll free number, (800) 321-2599. Decide the general area for your retreat. Then call the agent listed in the catalog for properties in that location that meet your requirements and price. Tell him what you are looking for. He may have other properties of that nature. Once you have selected the properties that sound good, go look at them. Never buy properties you have not seen. Pay a small price to another realtor to ask questions about zoning laws, or whether or not the property will suit your needs. After all, you will probably be in a strange place, and the person who sells you the property will work for the seller not the buyer. In a choice of this magnitude you will need all the competent advice you can get. Once you have made up your mind that the property suits your needs and is within your price range, buy it! Don't wait. Your other survival plans, at least a good part of them, hinge on this purchase.

All Priorities—Preparation for survival is nothing more than priorities. You can buy a lot of food for the price of a good set of golf clubs, or a year's membership at the local country club. The same holds true for reloading supplies vs. the price of a new stereo, especially when the old one will do. You can complete your survival plan now when it will do you some good. It's up to you. ●

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ASSAULT SYSTEMS HONDA TRX200

(Continued from page 31)

then as a means of some outdoor entertainment second. The former rodeo competitor, the ex-motorcyclist, and the "never-rode-nothin'" Chevy-lover all were eager to test the small gasoline-powered beast.

The ex-rodeo man fetched the TRX in his pickup truck. On his return to the office, a group was recruited to lift the machine's 450-and-something pounds out of the truck's bed and settle it gently in the company garage. Here is where all learned about the complexities of starting the TRX. (No owner's manual was at hand to serve as a guide.) The motorcyclist pointed out the motorcycle-like fuel valve and suggested it be turned to "On." However it was quite some time before the rodeo rider, who was cranking, cranking and cranking the engine, noticed the "Run" switch. The non-riding Chevy driver figured out the right combination for the gearbox(es), reverse and neutral. The start button was pushed once more, and the engine responded with a satisfying muted, popping whirrrrrrr.

Rodeo climbed aboard, blipped the thumb throttle a couple of times, engaged low range on the dual range box, then kicked down on the left-side foot-shift lever to catch first gear. The engine coughed and died. Here the crew learned that the TRX is cold-blooded and requires a warmup of a minute or two before trying to roll the vehicle.

The engine was restarted, and the warmup period observed. First gear, low range was selected, and the thumb throttle was pushed: "Let 'er buck!" said Rodeo. Indeed, the low-gear TRX bucked, snorted and lurched forward, and the ex-rider was away, along the company driveway. This is where Rodeo learned about turning radius and reverse. Because of the TRX's broad turning radius—some 25 feet—it was necessary to back and fill to make a 180-degree turn in the narrow alleyway drive.

Once Rodeo had the gears sorted out, and had acquired the feel of the centrifugal clutch, he turned the little vehicle over to the motorcycle expert. Confused by absence of a clutch at the left handlebar, and no twist-grip throttle on the right, this individual took equally as long a familiarization period as his rodeo counterpart. The automobile-oriented editor experienced the least trouble: "It's like a little car," he remarked.

The TRX is neither saddle bronc nor two-wheeled over-the-road conveyance. It is an entity unto itself—with a control system to match.

Once the in-town schooling had been completed, the crew loaded the vehicle back onto the pickup and headed for California's high desert to give the TRX an off-road workout. In retrospect, whether the crew gave the TRX a workout, or vice

versa, is debatable.

On desert dirt roads, little more than ancient bulldozer scars through pinyon, laurel, and juniper scrub, the crew learned about the TRX's penchant for bump-steering—and for rut-following.

The first man up took the TRX whizzing along a back country track, kicking up sand and dust, looking back and grinning at the others—until the TRX hit a deep pothole and ran itself into a rut. The result was near disaster, as the little vehicle hopped out of control, shaking the rider's foot away from the right footpeg to where the rear tire could take a nip out of his Achilles tendon.

This had a chastening effect on other would-be hotshoes among the crew. To a man, the crew selected low/first gear, then tiddled off at a slow walking speed to test the TRX.

Overconfidence returned, however, and another crewman encountered the bump-steer-into-the rut syndrome, at which time the left footpeg gnawed on the rider's left shin, and the right handlebar was forced rearward at some velocity, the impact from which overstressed the rider's pectoral, trapezius, triceps and deltoid muscles of his right side. This rider needed no anatomical chart to detail his various hurts. He could feel them all—for a week or more following his test ride at speed.

One thing the crew discovered is that all of the Assault Systems cases, and various special equipment, remained firmly affixed to the vehicle and the contents of the cases remained undamaged during the more violent evaluation runs.

As a matter of fact, the Assault System's TRX200 emerged without mishap. Likewise can be said for the Assault Systems equipment. It was the ASG crew that suffered the beating.

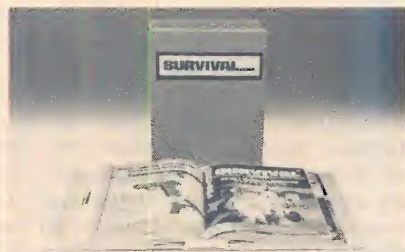
Evaluation—From a survivalist point of view, the Honda TRX200, and now a TRX with a bigger engine, the TRX250 for 1985, can do what the manufacturer made these vehicles for, farming and ranching, much better than they can carry out fun-time recreational vehicle tasks.

The small plot survival gardener would do well to look into a Honda TRX as a sturdy, fuel-stingy plowhorse, cultivator, insecticide sprayer, and auxiliary power supply. For the dual-purpose buff, yes, the TRX will serve as a ranch hand, and as a weekend off-road funrunner as well. There are better entertainment vehicles, however.

Conceivably, the camoed TRX could serve as a weapons carrier for a survival group patrol, or as a solo vehicle for escape to the boondocks, or as a means of transport for a scout.

Basically, though, this little plowhorse may wear the trappings of battle, but it is definitely not a warhorse. ●

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RATS

(Continued from page 34)

poisons and avoid skin contact by wearing rubber gloves. The containers and utensils used for mixing the poison with the bait should not be used for any other purpose. Always mix poisons, especially dry ones, in well-ventilated areas. Lock up poisons, the utensils, and the containers to prevent accidental contact when not in use.

Baits recommended are fresh, frozen or canned meats, fish and pet foods, bacon, yellow corn, cracked corn, hulled oats, apples, sweet potatoes, melons, tomatoes, peanut butter, nutmeats, butter, and sweet items. Molasses, vegetable oil, mineral oil or fish oil can be used to bind bait and dry poisons together. Mix bait according to instructions because too much poison will give a strong taste, whereas too little will not kill and may cause later bait shyness. Rats prefer fresh food, so only mix enough bait to meet current needs.

Under humid conditions or where there is need to float bait on water, mix the bait with 1½ pounds of melted paraffin to 2¾ pounds of bait. Pour the melted paraffin/bait mixture into a paper milk carton. After the paraffin hardens, peel the paper away. To form floating blocks, put a short wire loop in the paraffin mix as it starts to set. After hardening, remove the block from the mold and tie another wire or a string onto the loop to suspend it in a sewer or float it on the water. The paraffin bait resists water, mold, mildew, and insects for several weeks, but rats in dryer environments do not accept it readily as bait.

Poisons can be purchased from your local hardware, garden store, or any number of other suppliers. Contact your local public health service or rodent control bureau to find the poison that has been determined to be most effective for your climate and conditions.

Disposal—Rat carcasses should be buried or burned. *Always* wear rubber gloves that have cuffs when handling dead rats. If the carcass is inaccessible, for example behind a wall, drill a small hole in the wall about four inches above the body and spray a mixture of 10 drops of pine oil to a gallon of water into the area. If you cannot find the exact spot, release a couple blue bottle houseflies into the room and they will unerringly fly to the spot, attracted by the smell.

For additional information on rat control and bait recipes, read the U.S. Department of Public Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service's publication *Control of Domestic Rats and Mice*; 1977; by Bayard F. Bjornson, Harry D. Pratt and Kent S. Littig; 41 pages.

Rats can be a positive enemy force unless you prepare and learn to be the successful survivor. ●



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ADVERTISERS INDEX

Steve Arnold's Gun Room	24
Atlanta Cutlery Corp.	37
BMF Activator, Inc.	63
Barnett International, Inc.	Cover 4
L.L. Baston Co.	67
Beeman Precision Arms, Inc.	67
Benjamin Air Rifle Co.	64
China Diesel Imports.	25
Civil Defense Surplus Sales.	76
Coming Next Month.	68
Comp-U-Tronix.	51
Domestic Water-Works.	23
The Dutchman.	9
Dynamit Nobel of America.	5
The Edge Co.	63
Feather Enterprises.	37, 74
Four Seasons Survival.	75
Great Lakes Distributing.	51, 69
The Grover Co.	24
Guaranteed Distributors.	60
HKS Products, Inc.	6
Heckler & Koch, Inc.	Cover 2
House of Weapons, Inc.	60
Hubbard.	65
INCO.	47
J-S Sales.	74
JS&G Marketing.	69
Kaufman's West, Inc.	40, 41
Keystone Security Products.	74
Lifeknife.	60
M&M Enterprises.	15
Midwest Sports Distributors.	64
Military History.	39
Mil-Tec.	17
New Desert Publications.	35
Paladin Press.	7
Parelllex.	26, 27
Pocket Survival.	14
Probala & Roby Associates, Inc.	65
Provisions Unlimited.	10
Ram-Line, Inc.	19
Self Reliance Center.	Cover 3, 78
Special Weapons Dump.	65
Spartan Arms & Ammo Dump.	61
Servant, Inc. Armory.	62
Survival Books.	16
The Survival Center.	68
The Survival Center.	68
Survivalist Clearinghouse.	69, 68
Survivalist Clearinghouse.	69, 68
Survivor.	69, 16
Wumatae Kywon Do Association.	62
World-Tee Kywon Do Association.	62
Yellowstone Basin Properties.	74

MAIL CALL

(Continued from page 5)

would like to take this opportunity to thank you for a great magazine. I have quite a bit of knowledge on wilderness survival, and other crafts, and would like to share my knowledge with any survivalist in the U.S.A. who is keen to share his knowledge. Please feel free to print my letter and address.

C.F. van Breda
119 Tulbagh Flats
Stilfontein Road
Stilfontein
2550

Republic of South Africa
Readers, drop C.F. van Breda a line.

Non-Survivalist

I have read your magazine for several years. While I do not call myself a "survivalist," I have made it my business to learn to handle whatever situation in which I may find myself. I have accomplished this at almost no cost, and have developed an extensive "network" for mutual aid at the same time. Other people can obtain professional training in emergency medicine, hazardous materials, firefighting, rappelling, search and rescue, self-defense, firearms, etc., by joining and participating with a volunteer fire department, sheriff's reserve, or emergency management agency. Most of these agencies don't ask for members as they demand a certain element of commitment. You must seek them out. However, if you are willing to share some of your time and yourself, the dividends far outweigh the costs.

Name Withheld
Address Withheld

If you've learned all that good stuff, you're a survivalist, meaning that you have the edge on people who haven't taken the time, made the commitment and shared with others. When the necessity arises, you will have the skills to survive. The course you have taken in learning is one to be recommended to others. Your views are much appreciated.

CB/Ham Troubles

This letter is to let you and the staff know I appreciate your magazine. I bought it for the first time this past December for the article on "EMP Shielding." Then I became interested in several other articles. This led me to buy the January, 1985, issue. I read in "Mail Call" Will Pine's support for Citizens' Band radio in survival

communications and for a survival personals column in your magazine. Because your magazine is for the "common man," this seems a good idea as CB equipment is cheap, reliable and readily available. I have been interested in the application of CB in survival communications, because much of the military gear offered nowadays is bulky, obsolete, and operates on non-standard voltages. Even 49-mHz equipment has an application here for short-range, quiet communications. For years now, people have branded survivalists as a "bunch of nuts." Likewise for the legitimate CBer, society has labeled us as such. Some think of us as drunken, red-neck, good-buddy truck drivers, though in reality many of us are very professional and serious about our CB hobby, much like Ham operators. If you think that only we have the "nut" problem on 11-meter CB, just turn on the short-wave receiver or scanner and check out the Ham bands. They have problems with jammers and foul-mouthed operators just as on CB.

Bud Stacey
Seemes, Alabama

With radio, Bud, we advise our people to listen, not talk. And our people may be plain folks, but we regard them as uncommon, intelligent, and seekers of the kind of knowledge that you present in your letter. Many of us survivalists, too, are professional and serious about our avocation—staying alive.

Man Of The House

At 17 years of age, I'm probably the youngest survivalist you'll ever hear from. My dad died when I was 12, leaving me the responsibility of being man of the family. Since then, the main thing I've learned is that you have to survive, no matter what the odds. Kindly President Reagan cut off my Mom's Social Security when I turned 16, so in order to make it we had to sell our house, and get an apartment. I think your magazine is the best survival publication ever printed. How about doing some stories on apartment survival, and where to get lower-priced gear?

Name Withheld
Cleveland, Ohio

With your attitude, you will make it, whatever you try. And, surely, your mother is very proud of you. There will be an apartment survival article in a future issue, and see "Survival On a Budget" in this edition of ASG. •

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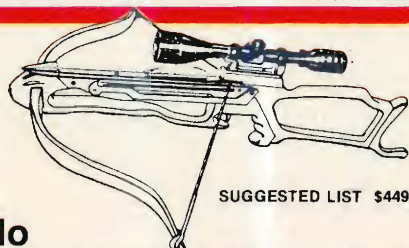
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